

Tales of Walnut Hill



By Robert Summa

Volume 4



Welcome to the Tales of Walnut Hill

We have a rich history we will share as you read this book. We will look at the past and the all-time greats that left their mark on the history of Walnut Hill: the masters of rifle shooting and pistol shooting. They generated the spirit of the Hill through competitive shooting. What they built and shot was a challenge. They were the distinguished shooters of the Hill. They came from all over the country to shoot at Walnut Hill. We have Harry Pope, the greatest barrel maker of his time and a master rifle shooter. We have Niedner, an all-time great, a master rifle shooter, and one of the top gun smiths of his time who chased Geronamo all over the southwest in the 6th Calvary. Then there is Dr. Mann, the father of ballistics, who in 1909 published *The Bullet's Flight* in his quest for the magic bullet and the magic barrel for the perfect score with the perfect rifle. He was a medical doctor and gave up his practice for his quest in ballistics. Then there are D. L. F. Chase, Ned Roberts, Horace Warner, H. V. Perry, Norman Brockway, C. W. Rowland, H. L. Willard, E. A. Leopold, W. V. Lowe, the Russell brothers, Arthur Corbin Gould, N. C. Nash, O. E. Gerrish, John Kelley, Will Hayes, Dr. W. G. Hudson, the great offhand shot Adolph Strecker, Dr. Baker, L. P. Hansen, Young, Mr. Fry, Daniel Fox, Major Hinman, F.J. Rabbeth and Professor Bell, Mrs. Sarah Elizabeth Briggs, E. E. Patridge. All are the masters of the rifle. The masters of pistol are C. Paine, Tom Anderton, Eugene Patridge, and Dorothy Knight at Walnut Hill. The riflemen of the Hill, having looked at the American militia team's defeat at Creedmoor, decided to do something about it, so they trained a militia rifle team. Some were members of Walnut Hill and knew the game of long range shooting, and were sent to Creedmoor where they won every event entered. The Walnut Hill riflemen were men of stature: doctors, engineers, and masters of their trade. They were men that enjoyed the shooting sport and did all they could to preserve it for the future generations to come. They shot offhand at ranges of 600, 800, 900, and 1000 yards, holding the finest rifles of their day. H. Pope was the father of the gane twist rifle barrel. Pope and Niedner made barrels for Dr. Mann.

All proceeds from the selling of these books will go to the Massachusetts Rifle Association to preserve the history of the M.R.A. through our Museum. If you can help, I thank you. I am looking for old photos of Walnut Hill to share with our membership. The one thing I have learned about history: if someone does not record it, it is lost for all time. But these books will present a vast history which we will share with the world. As you read and look at all the photos, know the books will be a treasure for future generations after we have all come and gone. The books detail the Tales of Walnut Hill. And we will only print 100 books in each series, for this is truly a limited edition!

Robert Summa
M.R.A. Historian at the Walnut Hill Range

The Massachusetts Rifle Association

Tales of Walnut Hill

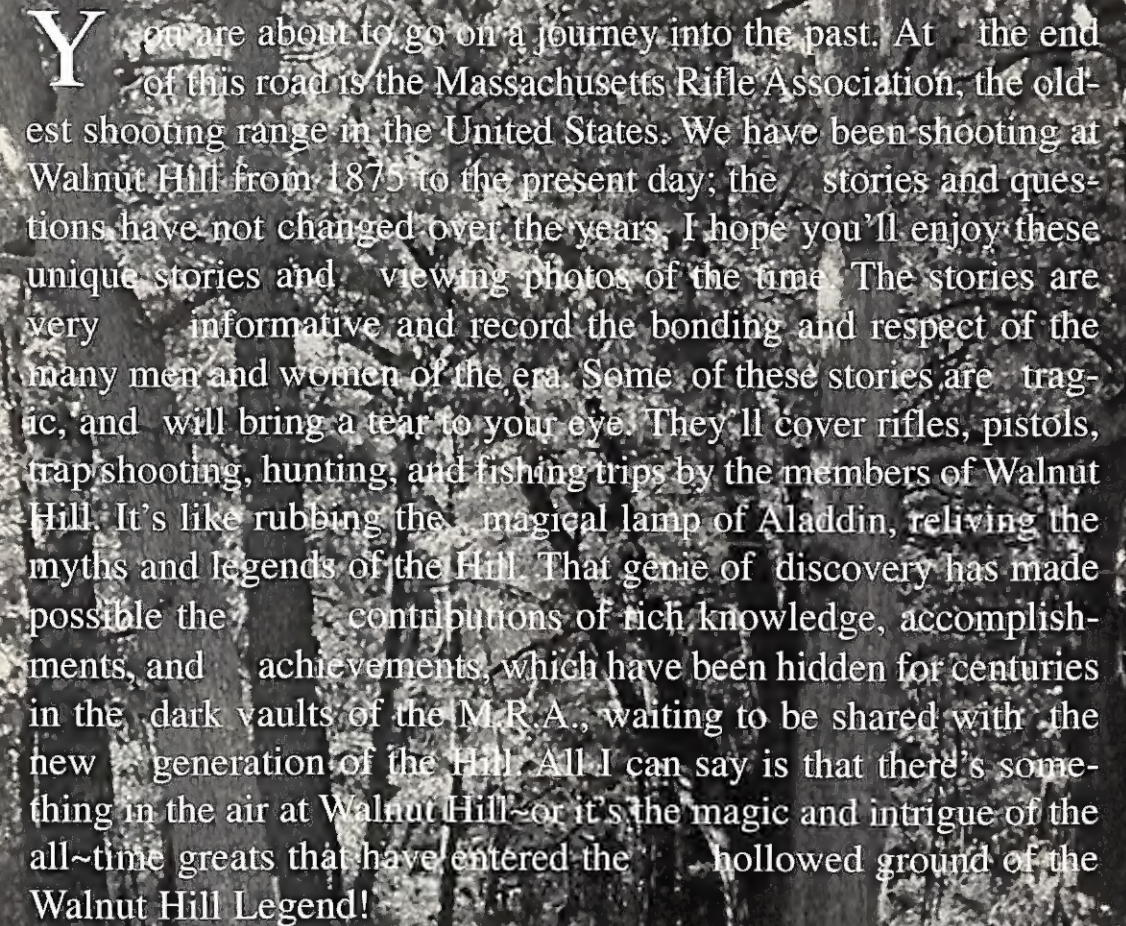
Volume 4

I dedicate this book to
The Black Powder Shooters of Walnut Hill.
Bud Thibault, Bill Tumbarello, and Pat Spencer,
for all their help over the years.

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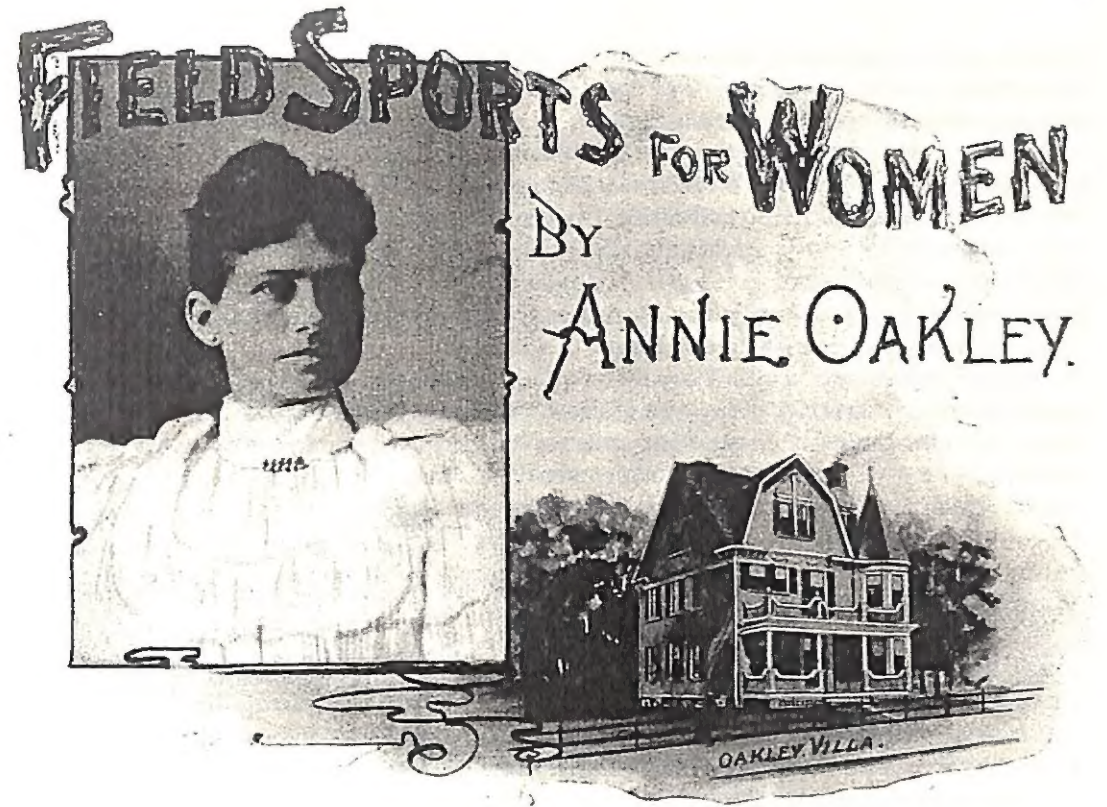
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Introduction



You are about to go on a journey into the past. At the end of this road is the Massachusetts Rifle Association, the oldest shooting range in the United States. We have been shooting at Walnut Hill from 1875 to the present day; the stories and questions have not changed over the years. I hope you'll enjoy these unique stories and viewing photos of the time. The stories are very informative and record the bonding and respect of the many men and women of the era. Some of these stories are tragic, and will bring a tear to your eye. They'll cover rifles, pistols, trap shooting, hunting, and fishing trips by the members of Walnut Hill. It's like rubbing the magical lamp of Aladdin, reliving the myths and legends of the Hill. That genie of discovery has made possible the contributions of rich knowledge, accomplishments, and achievements, which have been hidden for centuries in the dark vaults of the M.R.A., waiting to be shared with the new generation of the Hill. All I can say is that there's something in the air at Walnut Hill—or it's the magic and intrigue of the all-time greats that have entered the hallowed ground of the Walnut Hill Legend!

Annie Oakley



In writing this article for the Christmas number of *Shooting and Fishing*, I do not expect the members of my sex who may read it to follow my suggestions in every way. It is my object to tell those of my sex who are interested in field sports what, by years of experience, I have found best suited to myself. I well know that the rifle, gun, or wheel that just suits me might be entirely unsuited for others; it might also be the same with dress, boots, etc.; that is something learned only by the best of all teachers-experience. Until within the past few years many ladies were deterred from going into the field, because they did not consider it proper to wear a short dress, and yet knew very well it was impossible to go with any comfort in a long one. The advent of the bicycle, however, has done much to overcome this, and now ladies can be seen on the most crowded streets of our largest cities wearing dresses short enough to get through any brush or briars where man can. Do not think I am advocating all such costumes, for, to my notion, there is nothing so detestable as a bloomer costume; but nearly any of the natty skirts, knickerbockers and gaiter suits worn by ladies for wheeling will serve as a shooting dress if made of good material.

As to cycling, a word of advice may not come amiss. Many ladies are riding wheels, and making century runs or big records. They never think of resting so long as they can sit on their saddles. Instead of riding moderately, they continue riding with head and shoulders bent over their handlebars. To these I will say: Don't do it. In my advice I am backed by some of the best medical authority. You are only making business. For the doctors.

Now to return to shooting and dresses for the same: As for myself, I always dress warm in cold weather and cool in warm, making it a point to always wear heavy broad-soled boots or shoes and

in cold weather and cool in warm, making it a point to always wear heavy broad-soled boots or shoes and particularly to keep my feet dry. Above all, pay no attention to the shooting costumes you see advertised in fashion plates and papers. I have seen such suits in which I doubt very much if the wearer could stoop, let alone wheel and shoot.

Assuming you have settled on the matter of dress and wish to begin shooting, I would suggest, commence by using a light .22 caliber rifle; Do not use a loaded rifle at first, but with the unloaded rifle practice aiming at some mark. Great care should be taken to keep from pointing the muzzle at you or at any one else. After you have learned to handle your rifle with care, have some friend, who is an adept; show you how to shoot it. Having mastered the rifle, you have the key to all shooting. And it will not take you long to learn the use of a shotgun.

When I began shooting I had many things to contend with that are unknown to the beginner of today. First, my parents, who were strict Quakers, forbade my shooting or even having a gun in the house. Then the gun itself! It makes me smile we'll I look at my high grade hammerless gun and then think of the old muzzleloading musket bored out to Shoot shot, which, when new, might have cost \$3, but as my brother traded a coon dog for it, I never knew its money value. That gun and a long Kentucky rifle were my only firearms, but as game was plentiful, I managed to use them successfully. I suppose it was because I knew of nothing better and like thousands of persons today, thought I had the best firearms.

For a lady's gun I would recommend either a fivepound 20 gauge, or a-six and a half pound 12 gauge; the right barrel cylinder and left choke; a hammerless, of course, and No. 1 grade if your means will allow it. Use a light charge at first, Many ladies have been discouraged at the first trial by a heavily loaded gun, often handed them by some friend, who, no doubt, meant well, but did not know the proper way to instruct a lady in shooting.

A word here as to the handling of your shotgun may not come amiss: Never consider a gun safe because the safety catch is on, I have known them to jar off, and for that reason I have them either removed or fixed fast. I consider the safety catch useless; many field and trap. Shots have discarded them.

Before putting a shell into your gun, look through the barrel. Sometimes a wad is turned edge down in a carelessly loaded shell. When that shell is fired, that wad may remain in the barrel, and, if so, will probably cause a busted gun, if no worse. Now that you have mastered your rifle and shotgun, you should insist on accompanying your father, husband, or brother on their shooting trips whenever possible to do so.

I will endeavor to answer a question often asked me, but which I have never before answered in print: Why is it more ladies do not shoot at the traps? According to my way of thinking, it is because they have had little if any inducement to do so. There are only a few shooting grounds I know of where any provision is made for lady visitors; besides, a majority of club grounds have barrooms attached, and very often part of the small clubroom is used for the sale of beer and liquors.

Some time ago I attended one of the largest tournaments ever held in this or any other country. What should have been the shooters' room in front of the traps, although not much larger than an army tent, had one end set off for a bar; and, although the weather was very severe, many of the gentlemen shots, as well as myself, preferred to remain outside rather than risk the tobacco smoke and smell of whisky inside.

There are some good grounds; however, free from this fault, where one may get some practice; so if you are ready to begin trap shooting, adopt the most easy and natural position. When I commenced at the traps no one thought of gluing the gun to the shoulder while waiting for bird or target to leave the trap, and I have never yet done so.

If I were learning now, and undecided which position to adopt, I will frankly say, although I have always made it a rule to be original in everything, I would copy from Captain Money, Harvey McMurchy, Edgar G. Murphy, of this country, or Henry Jorru, of France. These four men, in my opinion, have the most natural, easy, and graceful positions of any I have ever seen, I remember the first time I saw Captain Money shoot at the London Gun Club. Unconsciously I applauded him, although he missed his bird.

In conclusion I will say that in writing this letter I do not mean that a woman should neglect her home duties; - that is furthest from my intention. But there is a time for work and rest, and you know the old saying about all work and no play, etc.

Miss Annie Oakley

November 19, 1896. Miss Annie Oakley is at Hot Springs, Ark., taking a rest. A few days ago she was one of a party of five who went shooting. There were sixty-three quail killed, Miss Oakley killing sixteen. Game is quite abundant near Hot Springs, deer, turkey, and lynx being frequently killed within a few miles of the city.

Harry M. Pope

November 2, 1896. Harry Pope did not do credit to himself in the Election Day match. After voting in Hartford, Conn., in the morning, he came to New York and shot his 100 shots. His limited time made it an impossibility to get the best work out of the man or the rifle. It has been suggested that in the future this match shall be held on Labor Day.

Tom Anderton

July 11, 1896. Readers of *Shooting and Fishing* may have noticed the fine pistol shooting of T. Anderton in the Walnut Hill scores for some time past. The published scores do not always show the good or poor work, so I will say that in winning the gold eagle badge on 92's he withdrew but eleven scores, and in shooting for the gold pistol medal, which call for ten scores of 92 or better, he made in one day six 92's or better, including two consecutive 95's. In the spring meeting he easily defeated Talbot, of Springfield. All his pistol shooting was done on the first day. On the second day he devoted his time to the rifle. Mr. Anderton is a man of splendid physique, weighing 294 pounds, and is a trained athlete. He never smoked in his life, and used to be a gymnasium instructor in the British army in India, so that he has had a fine training with the military revolver. On Saturday he shot a .44 caliber S. & W. Russian model revolver with shells reloaded with Dupont's No. 2 Nitro and No. 3W primers. Last summer I stated that this powder might go with proper priming.

Practical Rifle Shooting

We understand that the Massachusetts Rifle Association has decided to add to the attractions of its range at Walnut Hill various devices in the way of new targets that will enable members of the association and patrons of the range to secure shooting upon a more practical basis. It is the intention of the association to arrange a number of moving targets, such as a disappearing target, a running deer, approaching and receding targets. Practice upon these targets will be with hunting rifles and revolvers; with the latter arm shooting will be principally with military revolvers.

A committee has been appointed to arrange the new targets and make conditions for suitable matches to be shot thereon. Mr. E. E. Patridge, of this committee, would be glad to receive through *Shooting and Fishing* any suggestions in relation to the arrangements for such targets. Mr. Patridge writes in relation to this matter as follows:

"I have been convinced for some time that our association was falling behind the times as regards the two classes of shooting referred to. I believe that practical shooting should be cultivated. I admit the importance of fine rifle shooting in demonstrating what can be done with scientific weapons used under the most favorable circumstances. Undoubtedly the unwieldy rest-shooting rifle, with its delicately adjusted telescopic sight, serves a good purpose. Such an arm instructs the marksman as to the comparative merits of rifles and ammunition; it enables him to separate the errors of holding from those of judgment in estimating windage and variations of light.

The finely sighted offhand rule weighing a dozen or more pounds, with its delicate sights, is also useful in training the shooter. Again, the single shot pistol, light in weight and of small caliber, is excellent for the beginner, as by its use an expert shot may be developed; if the heavy charged revolver were used at the beginning, discouragement and very likely an abandonment of the sport would result.

"It seems to me that the natural tendency of rifle associations is to adopt weapons and foster matches that will produce the highest scores, regardless of the practicability of the methods employed. They seem to entirely overlook the desirability of developing hunting and military arms, and I think the time has come when efforts should be made to provide conditions as near similar as practicable to actual warfare, or as found in hunting."

We are glad that the Massachusetts Rifle Association has decided to depart from the beaten tracks in rifle shooting. The old styles of rifle and pistol shooting with deliberate aim, as well as rest shooting, will be continued, but the additional styles of shooting, if cultivated, must prove of great value to those who practice them.

We shall be glad to give space to describing plans for the arrangement of such targets if our readers will furnish them.

H. M. Pope's Record 1896

August 27, 1896. In the shoot of the Hartford, Conn., Rifle Club, as published in *Shooting and Fishing* August 27, 1896 H. M. Pope scored 250 in fifty shots on the Columbia target. Having been asked if this is high, I will say it is; also his 37 in the same score. His 250. is $226\frac{2}{3}$ average on the German ring target, $\frac{2}{15}$ less than Ross' 1134, which was $226\frac{8}{10}$ average.

F. O. Young.

Walnut Hill Range Notes

September 16, 1896. In *Shooting and Fishing* I intended to ask if a certain score was shot from a "bench" rest, but the compositor made me say breech instead.

The members are returning from their vacations, and the range is alive once more. Louis Bell is doing some fine revolver work. All his highest scores lately have been made with a .44 caliber Russian model Smith & Wesson revolver shot with a full charge of factory ammunition. Keough has just purchased a similar one, and is doing some great work in the quick-firing match.

Maj. C. W. Hinman is busily engaged in adapting a reduced charge to his .30 caliber Winchester.

Dr. C. C. Foster returned recently from a trip to Wyoming and Montana. He reports that he kept the camp well supplied with small game by the use of Rabbeth's sub-caliber bullet.

A curious thing happened on Saturday the 18th, showing the variation in conditions between shots. All were making 12's. Then Willard got a 10 at 6 o'clock; Chase followed suit, and Frye and Russell did likewise. Then Willard held for a 10 at 1 o'clock and got a tackhole, the rest profiting. I was talking with Chase at the time, and it was fun to see them all get the same dose.

Nash was out the same Saturday with a .30-30 Winchester, he fired five shots, offhand, at 50 yards, on the pistol target, which were all 10's, 11's, or 12's. They made a very pretty group.

Some four weeks ago I sent in a score of Louis Bell's of 97, marked with a T, but forgot to append a foot note. The score was made with a Smith & Wesson .44 caliber Russian model revolver, factory Ammunition.

It has been suggested by some of our best shots that the term "muzzle rest," as applied to Mr. Hoffnan's scores, be more fully explained. Is the position taken sitting or standing? The targets shown would seem to indicate what the shooters at Walnut Hill have for some time maintained; that is, at the range of the Pittsburgh Rifle Club there can be but little or no wind, otherwise such scores as are frequently made by L. P. Ittel, Dr. Taylor, and others with .25 caliber rifles would be chiefly conspicuous by their entire absence.

F. J. Rabbeth has announced his intention of taking an extended trip through the south. Probably he will start during the coming week. Mr. Rabbeth's latest purchase in the line of firearms is a .25-35 Winchester single shot. This rifle was pretty thoroughly tested by him yesterday at 50 yards.

Louis Bell had his shooting togs on yesterday was pretty well demonstrated. Three scores of 94, one of 92, two of 90, and an 89, were the result of his pistol practice, after which he shot one score with his .44 caliber Smith & Wesson Russian model revolver, which footed up 97 and ended his shooting for the day.

Keough needs but one score of 87 to complete his Victory Medal scores. Hard luck seems to be his portion, as scores of 85 and 86 come his way with unfailing regularity; but it seems to be a long way from 86 to 87.

Speaking of hard luck calls to mind a large quantity of that article which is being unloaded upon the shoulders of H. L. Willard. Since his fine scores of 120 and 118, shot recently, his favorite and chief pastime has consisted in digging lead out of his rifle. The amount obtained has rivaled the production of the Klondike mines, to the detriment of his scores.

F. J. Rabbeth stated yesterday that he had unscrewed his rest barrel and given it away. He said it had bothered him long enough and he wanted to give it a chance to bother somebody else.

I am greatly interested in the projected match between Pape and Dorrlar. Although I think Pape has the better end of the bargain as regards climatic conditions, I do not by any means admit that he has a walkover.

One of our members made a remark yesterday which would apply to the targets used at Sea Girt.

Another member claiming that the running deer target should be equipped with the figure of a deer to make it more interesting, the answer was made that, besides appearing childish, a person who could hit the present bullseye regularly would be pretty likely to hit the deer. F. Williams. Boston, Mass., September 25, 1896

Mr. H. L. Willard's Score

September 2, 1896. A great deal of interest is manifested in the remarkable rifle score made by Mr. H. L. Willard at the range of the Massachusetts Rifle Association at Walnut Hill on Aug. 28, 1896 and reported in *Shooting and Fishing*, issue of Sept. 2, 1896 We have received many letters asking that full particulars be published, and we gladly respond to these requests so far as we can. The shooting was done in the regular rest.

Match the conditions of which call for scores of ten shots at 200 yards on Standard American rest target. The rifle barrel was a No. 4. Winchester of .38 caliber; the powder used was Hazard FG in a .38-55 shell; a 330. Grain bullet was used, with Chase patch 1 1/2 thousandths of an inch in thickness. A telescope sight, made, we believe, by Mr. Willard, was employed. A diagram of the score is published herewith, which is full size.

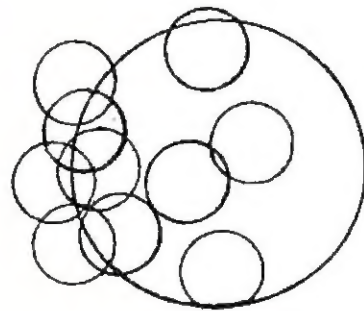
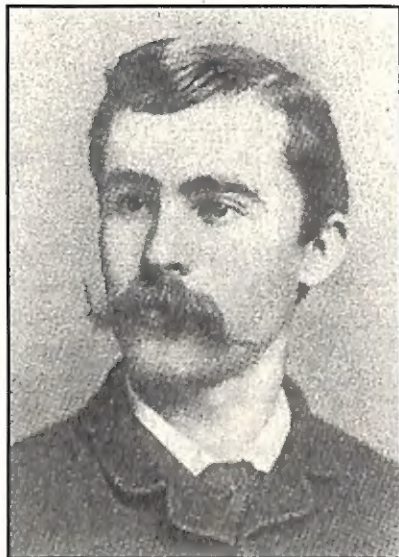


Diagram of Mr. Willard's score of 120, showing size of the 12 circle and location of each shot. full size.

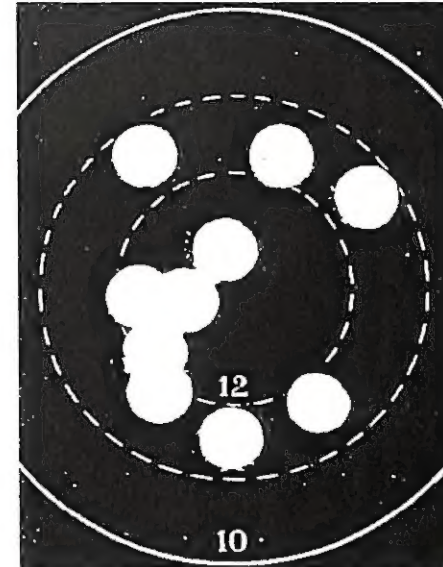
Rifle Shooting at Rest

April 17, 1896. A great many riflemen who have never tried rest shooting with a rifle believe it is not a difficult thing to do well. All who have tried rest shooting are aware that to do fine work quite as much skill is necessary as in offhand shooting. Some riflemen take kindly to rest shooting and quickly acquire proficiency, while others never become remarkably skillful. We have received a copy of a target shot in the rest match at Walnut Hill on Saturday, April 17, 1896. A score of 117 out of a possible 120, Shot at rest by Mr. E.E. Patridge, at Walnut Hill was done by Mr. E. E. Patridge, the expert pistol shot.

Mr. Patridge has achieved a great deal in pistol shooting, but it was not until about three months ago that he began rest shooting. His score is unusually good, and remarkably so considering his recent adoption of this style of shooting.

The rifle used was a Ballard action with a Winchester barrel, .38-55.

A reproduction of his target accompanies this.



(Target Reproduced exact size).



Mr. Eugene E. Patridge
long time member of
Walnut Hill

Mr. H. M. Pope, 1896

May 15, 1896. Mr. H. M. Pope, the well-known rifleman of Hartford, Conn., is about to visit England on a business trip. He expects to sail from New York May 15, 1896

Miss Annie Oakley

Miss Annie Oakley, without doubt the most famous markswoman living, was last week photographed by the proprietors of the kinetoscope with the object of showing her shooting acts in that wonderful machine. The first scene shows her firing a Winchester rifle for rapidity; another scene shows her shooting at composition balls tossed in the air, which she rarely misses. Those who have not had the pleasure of seeing Miss Oakley shoot will be able, by the aid of the kinetoscope, to see this act in a realistic manner. Miss Oakley recently purchased a new horse, which she is to take with her to England next week. This horse is to appear in the new play which she will produce in England soon. The horse has never been broken to saddle and was unaccustomed to shooting when she bought it, but it has already become trained to firing and will follow Miss Oakley about wherever she goes even up a flight of steps. It has been taught a number of tricks, which are sure to please the audience when given in public.

Walnut Hill Gleanings

October 2, 1896. I enclose four groups, * representing 40 concessive shots, which were made by **Mr. Rabbeth** with the .25-35 Winchester smokeless, noted in last week's *Shooting and Fishing*. The first group, numbered 1, was made with factory ammunition; the bullet was a soft point, but showed quite a small amount of the lead core. Mr. Rabbeth attributes his poor success last week to the bullets having too much of the point exposed.

The remaining groups, Nos. 2, 3, and 4, were made with cartridges reloaded with King's Semi-smokeless powder, Nos. 2 and 3 were with full-jacketed bullet, and No. 4 with a soft point, it will be noticed that the groups shot with the soft-nosed bullet are much smaller than with the full jacket; also, that the factory and reloaded cartridges shot very nearly alike. The Semi-smokeless powder shot about 3 inches lower at 50 yards than the factory loaded ammunition. After the above groups were completed, Mr. Rabbeth got sighted in at 200 yards, and shot a score which aggregated 103. In 10 consecutive shots, ending one score and commencing another, he secured 106 points, which, by-the-way, we claim as the record for the .25-35 Winchester smokeless. To ascertain the difference between the factory cartridges with which the above score was obtained, and the reloaded, four shots were fired with the latter, the sights remaining fixed. The shots all struck in the 2 ring at 6 o'clock, thus giving a drop of some 23 inches, as they were close to the line.

There is a serious doubt in the minds of witnesses of the above, as to whether the large variation in elevation was caused by the difference in pressure, or flip in the barrel.

It may interest some readers of *Shooters and Fishing*, to learn that Mr. Rabbeth and Mr. Frye, of the Massachusetts Rifle Association, have both made scores of 118 at rest, with peep and globe sights, and if the score of 247, noted in last week's paper, as made by H. M. Pope, with muzzle rest, were given Standard American count, the total might be surprising. There is a possible 116 in that 247. And perhaps better.

J.H. Keough's four consecutive scores of 48, 47, 47, 46, made with a military rifle Oct. 2, show good holding power.

I am expecting soon to get hold of some of King's Semi-smokeless powder.

P. Williams. Chelsea, Mass.

*The 50 yard groups mentioned measure as follows, the diameter of a circle which will enclose each being given No. 1, 1 1/4 inches; No. 2, 1 11/32 inches; No. 3, 2 1/32 inches; No. 4, 1 21/64 inches. A circle 61/64 inches diameter would enclose nine of the shots in No. 1.

Boston Press Rifle Association

November 12, 1891. The Boston Press Rifle Association held its annual meeting and dinner, at Hotel Thorndike, November 12th 1891. The prizes awarded the winning members consisted of silver cups, silk umbrellas, pipes, jewelry, and many other beautiful articles of merchandise and art. The shoot was held about a month ago-October 15, 1891, at the Walnut Hill range. The association is composed of about fifty members. There were also present, many friends and invited guests, and a general good time is reported.

The report of the executive committee shows the organization to be in a prosperous condition.

Sportsman of today

In our last impression we referred to the practice of shooting bull bats, or night hawks, for sport at Tallahassee, Florida. Sportsmen of today do not, as a rule, shoot our feathered songsters or our insectivorous birds; they have learned to love them and would scorn to kill them for practice. But it was not always thus. We can look back to the days when men who were regarded as exemplary in their lives made a practice of shooting gulls, swallows, robins; in fact, anything that flew, if they came within range when game was scarce. We recall one man in particular who stood high in the commercial and religious world, who was as free from vices as any man we ever met, yet he would shoot any bird that came within range of his gun. It took a great deal of argument and many reproofs to make him realize the perniciousness of his practice. He was a sportsman of the old school, and there were many others like him.

We cannot but regret the many acts of our ancestors in many matters pertaining to field sports; to considerable extent they were wasteful and shortsighted, and comparatively few of them thought of sparing song and insectivorous birds. The sportsman of today, as a rule, has been educated to kill game with moderation, to spare and protect the birds that make the woods and fields more beautiful by their songs, to know that some of the birds we were taught from early childhood to kill do far more good than harm.

It is not the naturalist we refer to who spares the birds, nor is it the sportsman naturalist alone, but it is the usual sportsman of today as we find him in field game shooting or shooting at the traps who entertains fostering feelings for our birds. Perhaps we cannot better illustrate this than quoting an article sent us by a subscriber, and clipped from the Bangor Commercial. It says: "A peculiar thing happened the other day during a practice shoot of the Waterville Gun Club. It is frequently the case that a swallow will skim along near a target as it is thrown by the trap, and once in a while one will dart dangerously near just as the gun is discharged. There has never been a fatality among these feathered visitors, however, until the occasion spoken of, when twice a swallow flew squarely in line with the target just as the shooter pressed the trigger. Of course the bird in each instance was shot dead, much to the regret of the shooter, for as a rule the members of gun clubs have too much of the real sportsman in them to ever press trigger intentionally on a bird that is neither game nor harmful to game. It is rather extraordinary that a bird should have been in such close proximity to the target at the instant the gun was fired, and in the several years that members of the club have practiced at the trap nothing of the sort has ever occurred before."

Miss Annie Oakley vs. Philip Daly, Jr.

November 16, 1896. Miss Annie Oakley is booked for another match. She will shoot a fifty live bird match at Long Branch, N.J., probably on November 16, 1896, against Philip Daly, Jr., a well-known amateur shot. Mr. Daly will shoot a 10 bore gun, Miss Oakley a 12-bore. The prize is understood to be a Diamond Medal Stevens Pistol, it is stated Miss Oakley is to shoot at 50 and Mr. Daly at birds; the boundary is to be 25 yards.

S & W Lubricating Modern Projectiles

We have many times referred in these columns to the self-lubricating bullet which was invented by Mr. D. B. Wesson. The system of lubrication consists of a projectile with small passages within it, which are filled with lubricant. When the arm is discharged, the gas acting on the projectile forces the lubricant out, distributing it around the projectile and along the barrel of the rifle. It is believed that by this plan a more even distribution of the lubricant is secured, and consequently more regular shooting.

With the lead or alloy bullet this system of lubrication has proved slightly advantageous, it is believed; but the cost of manufacturing has had a good deal to do in preventing its general adoption. With the advent of the metal-jacketed bullet, there has seemed to us to be need of a new mode of lubricating, though many inventors and manufacturers appear to have ignored this. The increased velocities of the modern small bore rifles, the quick twist, and the reduced bores all seem to make lubrication essential, and when the proper system is devised it is believed the new small bore rifle will retain its accuracy much longer.

Our attention has recently been drawn to a system recently brought out in England which seems to us to be mainly made up of the plan introduced some years ago by Mr. Wesson. The patentee says of his system:

"It refers to a system of lubricating the barrels of rifles by means of a store of grease in the bullet, which is deposited along the bore during the transit up the barrel. Essentially, the plan consists of forming a hole in the nose of the bullet leading to the interior, and thence branching off in two or more directions to the outer surface. These cavities are filled with lubricating material, which is discharged against the interior of the bore, as above stated, the forces tending to expel the lubricant through the holes in the side of the bullet."

The bullets to which it is proposed to apply this system all have metal jackets of the solid base form; in one there is a longitudinal hole passing through the entire length of the bullet; in, another a hole extends from the point of the bullet some distance down, and four smaller holes are drilled radially from outside of the bullet, connecting with the main hole. A groove extends around the bullet at the part where the radial holes emerge. There are also bullets with the same center hole, and radial holes at different angles. Still another bullet represents an adaptation of the system to tubular-bullets, the lubricant being placed in the central hole, and four radial ones being drilled to the outside. The sabot, which comes away after the bullet leaves the muzzle, serving as a base to the central hole.



Improved Cartridges for accuracy and cleanliness having self lubricating bullets .32 S & W .38 S & W also .44 S & W Russian model Under S & W Patents, November 18, 1890; June 13, 1893. Bullets are perforated to permit flow of lubricant when fired. A larger number of shots can be fired and greater accuracy maintained without cleaning the arm, than with the ordinary style of lubricant.

The Union Metallic Cartridge Co. Bridgeport, Conn.

Another Prefect Rifle Score

An event of unusual interest occurred at the range of the Massachusetts Rifle Association, at Walnut Hill, Mass, on Saturday last, it was the making of a perfect score of 120 out of a possible 120 on the Standard American rest target, at a distance of 200 yards. This remarkable feat of marksmanship was performed by Mr. H. L. Willard, who is the only person who has ever accomplished this feat, he having once before made a similar score.

On the same day at the same range and under similar conditions Mr. D. L. F. Chase, another expert rifle shot of great fame, secured the fine score of 119 out of a possible 120, a score far beyond the skill of most riflemen, which would have astonished the rifle shooting world were it not eclipsed by the perfect score of Mr. Willard.

Securing a perfect score on the Standard American rest target means a great deal. It demonstrates unmistakably the accuracy of the American rifle. The arm, if we mistake not, is a product of the Winchester Co. The skill of the rifleman who makes such a score must be of the highest order, and to make such a score for the second time is likely to leave the impression among fair minded riflemen that it was skill pure and simple, unadulterated with luck.

Mr. Willard's score recalls the development of the sport of fine rest rifle shooting with a modern breechloading rifle in America, But little was known of this sport until the adoption of the Standard American Target. The rest shooting that was done before that time was mainly with heavy muzzle-loading rifles. The Massachusetts Rifle Association arranged a series of matches at 200 yards rest on Standard American target, and to the surprise of many riflemen classed as experts, it was found a difficult matter to keep their shots inside the regulation eight-inch bull's-eye. This stimulated improvements in rifles and ammunition and that style of shooting was cultivated. It took a few years to raise the standard of rest shooting, and not a few riflemen expressed their belief that all that could be expected of a modern breechloading rifle was to place a series of ten shots on and in a circle the size of the inner carton of the Standard American target, which was 3.36 inches in diameter.

A clean score of 100 out of a possible 100 was regarded as a clever performance and evidence of great skill as a rest rifle shot as late as the year 1886. In 1887 perfect scores became so numerous as to create but little comment, and a run of thirty-seven consecutive tens demonstrated that with the improvement in rifles, ammunition, and the developed skill of riflemen, a finer target must be adopted. Two rings were placed inside the tenring of the Standard American target counting 11 and 12 and measuring in diameter 2.33 and 1.41 inches respectively.

This is the target used largely by rest rifle shooters using breechloading rifles and the one on which Mr. Willard shot his score on Saturday last.

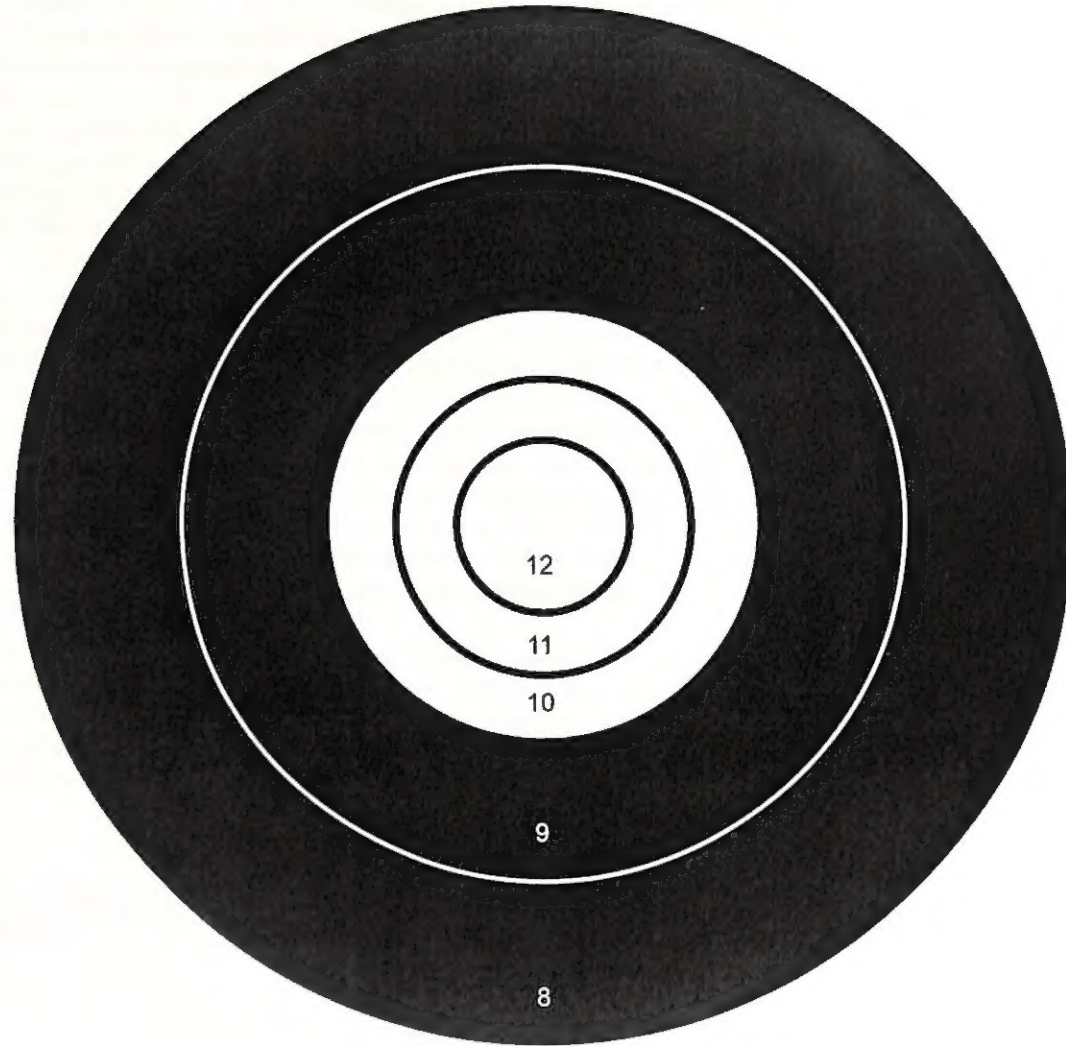
The Score of 119 held the record for a long time until it was thought by very many riflemen that the possible would never be secured, but Mr. Willard secured that aggregate, and on Saturday last, August 28, 1897 repeated the performance.

(See page 17.).



Standard American Rest Target Bullseye 200 Yards White Centra.

Copy Right 1885, C.W. Hinman, 107 Haverhill Street., Boston Mass.



Mrs. W. P. Shattuck 1896

1896. In last week's issue of *Shooting and Fishing* reference was made to the skill displayed by Mrs. W. P. Shattuck, who, shooting then for the first time at live birds from the traps, killed 18 out of the 25 shot. Photographs of Mrs. Shattuck were mailed on Saturday night from Chicago, but by some delay in transit these did not reach this office until Tuesday, entirely too late to allow of half tone illustrations being made for last week's issue. Two photographs were forwarded by express, and these came to hand on time.

To show to our readers the graceful yet still workmanlike manner in which Mrs. Shattuck stands at the traps, her portrait is here given, It is a speaking likeness.



Mrs. W. P. Shattuck 1896
shooting live birds from the Traps

Nots from Walnut Hill

July 18, 1895. This is the season of the year when riflemen contemplating making hunting trips are busily engaged in sighting and testing their hunting rifles. Dropping down at Walnut Hill, one may, find Mr. D. L. F. Chase, the well known rest shot, busily engaged in getting ready for his second crop of woodchucks, which are to be found after the grass is cut. Major Hinman is taking wholesome exercise with a caliber, carrying a cartridge some inches long, and Major Foster is experimenting with a light cut down Lee rifle, and is hoping for a good smokeless powder. Major Foster's favorite rifle was for a long time a Winchester .45-70, but during a trip in Montana last summer this rifle was stolen from his horse, and he is still mourning for it.

Group Shooting 1896

Not long ago I went to the range and made a group of ten shots that would have counted 119 on the Standard American target. I felt very much elated and showed it to two of our best offhand shooters. They took it in hand, looked it over, turned it over and looked again, then handed it back. One, with a most contemptuous smile, made the remark:

"Any ordinary marksman could make a group like that at rest." He said groups did not count, and were not reported or recognized as good marksmanship.

I challenged him to make a group equal to it, and made the assertion that it required as good a rifle, as perfect ammunition, the same care and uniformity in loading, and as good holding, as it would to place his ten shots inside the 10 ring on the Standard American target. Well, I felt like a yellow dog. I dropped my tail between my legs, figuratively speaking, and sneaked back to my kennel, feeling that I was of no account in the shooting line.

Time passed on, and in due time came a perfect day—no wind, no sun, moist atmosphere, and warm. Being human and fond of the rifle, I was uneasy, nervous; nothing went smoothly. I kicked my dog instead of my wife when she said, "My dear doctor, it is a perfect day to make a good score. Why not take me and go to the range?"

I always do as she advises, if I think it good; so we went to the range. I put up three of my targets side by side on the same level at 200 yards, and began sighting upon the middle target until I got on the 10 ring, I then began to shoot on the other target for a score of ten shots, and as it was good, I kept on shooting until I had shot twenty-six times. Miss M. K. Skinner then began on her score on another target without any previous sighting shots and shot a score of ten. I put up another target and shot another score of ten.

I have transferred these forty-six shots all to the target which I send, Miss M. K. Skinner's being checked with a cross. These scores are successive, if I should select from a number. I could make a much better showing. I am aware that this shooting is not as good as it ought to be, as the four and a half scores. When grouped, measure $4\frac{1}{8}$ inches in diameter; at 100 yards it would be $2\frac{1}{16}$, and 50 yards $1\frac{1}{32}$, as the target question is now before the shooting fraternity, I send this as the one on which I now shoot, as I wish to cast my vote for the Rabbeth Standard Ring target, as published in *Shooting and Fishing*, for offhand shooting, but for rest shooting prefer my 12-inch white bull's-eye, numbered like the Columbia, with a 1-inch white center in a 2-inch black, with the $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch black cross lines. In taking aim, if the cross hairs of the scope are parallel with the lines on the target, one cannot be very far off, One is sure of being on the same level every time. I have used a black bull's-eye with a white cross, but prefer the white, as I can spot the shots so much more readily.

I still assert that it does not require any better holding to make a fine score than a fine group. I have often seen groups reported in the columns of *Shooting and Fishing* by some of the best marksmen we have, and have selected the following groups and scores as reported in that journal for the past three or four years. I have measured them with a compass, and have given the exact diameter from center to center of outside bullet holes. I think this the only correct way, as it gives the .22 caliber a fair measure with the .50 caliber. I know it is the practice to count a touch in counting a score. I think if the center of the shot is on the 12 ring, it should count 12 if the center is outside the 12, it should count 11, notwithstanding one-third is inside the 12 ring.

The Following are some of the groups as reported in the year of 1896, in *Shooting and Fishing*. Diameters are in inches that are given:

F.J. Rabbeth, .22 caliber, 10 shots, 50 yards, $11\frac{1}{32}$.

F.J. Rabbeth, .22 caliber, 10 shots 50 yards, $13\frac{1}{16}$.

Mrs. B. G., .25 caliber, 10 shots, 50 yards, $15\frac{1}{16}$.

J.N. Gardner, caliber not given, 10 shots, 50 yards, $15\frac{1}{16}$

Edson, .25 caliber, 7 shots, 100 yards, $1\frac{3}{4}$

D. Kirkwood, .40 caliber, 10 shots, 200 yards, $2\frac{15}{16}$.

Maj. George Shorkley, .25 caliber, 10 shots, 50 yards, $11\frac{1}{16}$.

A. D. Spencer, caliber not given, 75 shots, 200 yards, $3\frac{6}{16}$

H. Reynolds, caliber not given, 75 shots, 200 yards, $2\frac{7}{16}$; sno on a black target, and lines drawn in afterward.

Miss M. K. Skinner, .38 caliber 45 shots, 200 yards $3\frac{10}{16}$.

E. A. Leopold, .32 caliber, 10 shots, 100 yards $1''$,

C. Gove, 38 caliber, 21 shots, 100 yards, $1\frac{10}{16}$.

Dr. S A. Skinner, .38 caliber, 13 shots, 200 yards, $1\frac{13}{16}$; also, a group of 45 shots, 200 yards, $4\frac{3}{16}$.

L., of Lyme, N.H., .25 caliber, 10 shots, 44 yards, $29\frac{1}{32}$.

J.C. Shout, .50 caliber, 40 shots, 200 yards, $3\frac{5}{16}$.

Miss M. K. Skinner, .38 caliber, 12 shots, 200 yards, $1''$

John Bodine, .44 caliber, 10 shots, 150 yards, $13\frac{1}{16}$.

F. J. Rabbeth, out of 50 shots there were 15 consecutive in a diameter of 2 inches.

Following are some of the best scores:

H. L. Willard, .38 caliber, 10 shots, 200 yards, $13\frac{1}{16}$.

F.J. Rabbeth, .38 caliber, 10 shots, 200 yards, $1\frac{8}{16}$; also, 40 consecutive shots, all in and on the 11 ring excepting of two.

R. C. Rice, caliber, 30 shots, 200 yards, $2\frac{14}{16}$.

H. V. Perry, .45 or .50 caliber, 50 shots, 200 yards, $3''$.

W. T. Thompson, caliber not given, 11 shots, 200 yards, $1\frac{5}{16}$.

I have compiled these groups and scores to show that groups do count, and that we are proud of them. If I have made any errors, I hope those I have sinned against will pardon me, as it is unintentional.

Mr. Rice says: "It is a saying among old-timers that anyone is liable to shoot ten good shots, but to shoot thirty consecutive shots was necessary to test one's capabilities. Like other tests of skill, these should be shot in a match, else the record should be rejected."

That is all right; but I would ask how men situated like Mr. Blain and myself are to be recognized, if our word as gentlemen and marksmen is not to be taken? I think I have been to the range twenty times this summer, with no one present excepting my daughter, and we have made some good scores and groups. If I should by chance make 120, I should not dare to publish it, as I could not prove it by uninterested witnesses. Could only show the target, then the distance might be questioned. What can a poor saint, or devil, do? Give up shooting? No, no, not I. I have passed the pinfeather stage long ago.

Medicus Hoosick Falls, N. Y.

(See Page 22 for Target).

Extraordinary Rifle Shooting

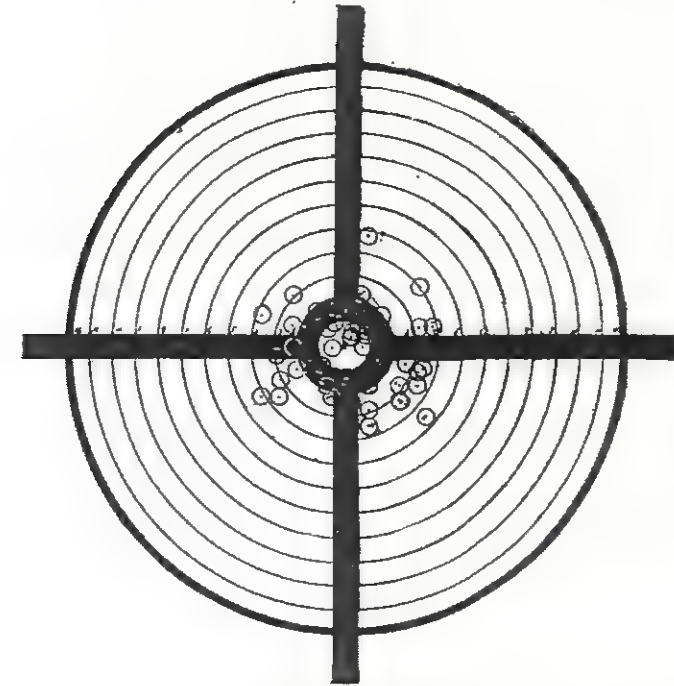
July 4, 1896. At *Walnut Hill*, on Saturday last, there were several performances which will perhaps be rembered as important events in the history of rifle shooting in America. The attendance was light, owing to the heavy rainstorm, but those whose love of the rifle overcame all fear of the elements were rewarded by seeing some unusually fine shooting in the several of the matches. The scores of 91 by S. O. Merville, and 89 by H. L. Lee, in the offhand Victory Medal Match, were fine, but the work of J. Francis (F. J. Rabbeth) in several of the rest matches was phenomenal. Mr. Francis during the day shot but sixteen-shot scores, as follows, in the order of shooting: 108, 110, 116, 119, 117, 119. The first two scores were shot during the morning, when the weather conditions were not as good as later in the day. The score of 116 attracted no particular attention nor comment, as it was believed that the Winchester barrel which was being shot was quite equal to the feat of bettering that high score.

During the shooting of the first half of the next score, it was noticed that 12's were being called quite regularly, and it was also remarked that the shooter was very careful in loading his shell as well as painstaking in cleaning the rifle. The casual remark dropped by him that he was but one point off in seven shots, and that he didn't know but what he had better "pull the score" rather than finish it, was passed as being one of Francis' facetious sayings occasionally indulged in while doing good shooting.

The target was watched by those near, when it was seen that the heavy rain had caused the centre to become detached from the large paper and that the upper portion had fallen down and partially covered the bullseye, rendering the target difficult to sight on. However, as there were but two more shots in the score, it was thought best to fire them on the old target rather than change to another. The firing was therefore resumed, and as the hand of the indicator on the dial was moved to record the value of the shot, it was seen that another 12 had been added to the score. The firing on the adjacent targets partially stopped and some speculation was indulged in as to the outcome of the ninth shot, which was soon fired and still another 12 was placed to the shooter's credit. What would the last shot be? If a 10, the score would count 117, and 11 would tie previous scores of 118, and if a 12, it would tie the highest on record. Shooting ceased at that end of the house, and all eyes and available telescopes were trained on the target and the last shot anxiously awaited. A careful aim was taken, and after the shot had been fired, the marker signalled a 12 and the score counted up 119. Those present were not slow in applauding the shooter. Among those who congratulated him was the veteran rifleman Mr. Nathan Washburn, who, on a previous occasion secured the same total. The next score shot counted 117. During the firing of the previous scores the telescopic sight had been held on the ring at 7 o'clock, and it was thought desirable to change so as to bring it into the centre; so five shots were fired on a sighting shot ticket, which counted 9, 10, 12, 12, then a score was began and seven more 12's were scored, making ten consecutive 12's, but as such a series of shots do not count, the coveted possible has yet to be made. The last two 12's of the seven in the score were at six o'clock, but no change was made in holding until the eighth shot, in which an allowance was made.

It was noticed while the shooter was seated at the rest that a change in the light had taken place, and speculations were indulged in as to the outcome of the shot. Before the marker had signalled the value of the shot it was admitted that it would be an 11, which conjecture was verified by the indicator on the dial. The two remaining shots scored 12's and the second 119 of the day was announced. Congratulations were extended by brother riflemen. It was the opinion of all present that before the season closed the coveted possible would be made and by the Winchester barrel in the hands of J. Francis.

The fifth contest for the *Shooting and Fishing* cups will occur at the grounds of the Massachusetts Rifle Association, at Walnut Hill, Mass., on Wednesday, August 26, 1896. Any club may enter one or more teams, the winning team receiving the cup as its property. The club winning the greatest number of cups in twelve contests receives an elegant pitcher. Entries free.



Group Shooting 1896



The Lawson C. Cummins
Duplex Telescope Sight
and a Winchester 1892 .32 caliber Rifle

Isolated Riflemen

May 7, 1895. In *Shooting and Fishing* of May 7 is an article from the pen of Mr. R. H. Blain, the Canadian. He hit the bull's-eye when he said, "It is an awful thing to be the only rifle crank in any particular neighborhood." You are correct, Mr. Blain. You might as well be in the desert of Sahara as at a deserted rifle range. Well might the poet say:

"Oh, solitude! where is thy charm?
Better to live in the midst of alarm
Than to dwell in this horrible place."

No one to compare notes with; no one to shoot with and to cheer each other on to the goal-120 Canada is not a howling wilderness; neither is Hoosick Falls, but ride cranks are scarce in some sections.

Some three years ago we had a flourishing rifle association, For some unaccountable reason the range is deserted. My daughter M. K. Skinner and my-self go to the range once a week in good weather, and now and then make a good score, or group, but have great delicacy in showing them, as there is no one present to vouch for them, With men situated as Mr. Blain and myself, how can we call on the secretary to affirm the truth of our scores? I know there are many Thomases who will not believe the possible unless they can see the shots or have proofs, which cannot always be had.

May 14, 1895. M. K. Skinner and I went to the range for a shoot, After she had shot eleven times, all in and on a 4 1/2 inch ring, she began her group of fourteen shots, which were consecutive, excepting the two marked with a *, all in and on the 11 ring, and twelve in and on the 12 ring of the Standard American target. Shot with a Winchester .38-55-334 at 200 yards, rest.

With riflemen situated like Mr. Blain and myself, how pleasant it is to occasionally meet a brother crank, and to talk over ways and ideas. I experienced that pleasure last week when Major George Shonkley and friend, of New York, called on us and participated in a woodchuck hunt, which was successful, as tails count as a tale told.

Our talk on this occasion on rifles, bullets, powder, targets, etc., would make a conglomerate of words as large as a haystack.

Medicus Hoosick FALLS, N.Y.



Miss Mabel Skinner



Dr. S.A. Skinner



Major G. Shonkley left
F.W. Mann center
Dr. S.A. Skinner right

Details of the perfect score

July 11, 1895. We recently announced in these columns the recording of a perfect score on the Standard American rest target, by Mr. H. L. Willard, at the range of the Massachusetts Rifle Association at Walnut Hill, Mass. Ever since that announcement we have almost daily received letters, asking for the full particulars of the shooting by Mr. Willard. Perhaps this desire to know of the details of the shooting is natural, when we consider the long time riflemen have been striving to accomplish this feat.

We would state for the benefit of inquiring riflemen that Mr. Willard shot a Ballard action, into which is fitted a Winchester barrel, 32 inches in length, chambered and rifled for the .38-55 cartridge. He used a regular 55 grain shell, loaded with Hazard PG powder and a Union Metallic Cartridge Co.'s primers. The bullet weighed 330 grains; was 30 parts lead to 1 part tin; and was seated in the barrel 1/16 of an inch in front of the shell, the bullet being patched with a Chase patch .0015 of an inch thick, with a joint of the patch placed in the groove of the barrel. Perhaps the most interesting thing in connection with this shooting is the fact that the telescope, which is 36 inches in length and 3/4 of an inch in diameter, is made with the cheapest lenses Mr. Willard could buy, he employing these lenses by the way of, an experiment. The objective is a special lens ground to the right size, which cost 5 cents. The power of the glass is about 10.

We have before stated that Mr. Willard is a very ingenious and expert mechanic, and the mechanical part of his telescope, which he considers as perfect as possible, was made after an idea of his own. The drawings for these plans we hope to present at a later day. the lenses are fastened in cells about 1 1/4 inches long. The lens, after being fitted in the cell, has a short piece pressed on top and soldered around the edge. The telescope is focused so that the cross hairs remain stationary, no matter which way the head of the shooter is moved. This Mr. Willard regards as a very important matter, as he says the best telescope is useless unless properly focussed. He writes that he regards the seeing qualities of the telescope as the least important, and he cannot see the difference in accuracy between a plain lens and an achromatic one, he has tried both. He had achromatic lenses made to order as perfect as possible, and reports that he could do no better than with the plain lenses. He regards the mountings for a telescope of the greatest importance, and states that they must be made perfect so that they will never get out of order.

It seems to us that the performance of Mr. Willard indicates the correctness of our supposition announced previously in these columns, that the perfection of the telescope sight is more a question of mechanics than of optics. It is certainly true that the mechanical part of a telescope sight has for many years been imperfect and capable of great improvement.



Winchester Schuetzen Rifle

A Perfect score

June 27, 1895. The attention of the rifle shooting fraternity has recently been attracted to the remarkable shooting in the rest matches at Walnut Hill, Mass., on the range of the Massachusetts Rifle Association: A short time ago we printed an account of the shooting at 200 yards by Mr. F. J. Rabbeth and Mr. D. L. F. Chase, at which time the first named gentleman recorded in match shooting a series of fourteen successive 12's on the Standard American rest target, and the latter gentleman scored thirteen successive 12's on the first of the present month Mr. Chase repeated his performance by again recording the same number of 12's.

We felt such shooting was worthy of recognition, for it seemed to us that to place that number of consecutive shots on and in the 12 circle, which is but 1.41 inches in diameter, meant a combination of a perfect rifle, correct ammunition, and the highest skill. These performances were noteworthy; but they were series of shots on different scores, and riflemen who read of this work wondered if skill and good for tune would ever combine at the proper time to enable any rifleman to place all of the shots of a ten shot score on and in the 12 circle, recording a perfect score.

On Saturday last the feat was performed at Walnut Hill Mr. H. L. Willard recorded a perfect score of 120, something many of the best rest rifle shots of the United States have striven to accomplish since May, 1887.

In referring to this particularly meritorious performance by Mr. Willard, we wish to state that he has won this distinction as a marksman by patient and intelligent study of the rifle. Though comparatively a young shooter, he has confined himself to the department of rifle shooting in which he has excelled. Possessing a high order of mechanical skill and ingenuity, it enabled him to construct his own telescope sight and the various appurtenances of his sport; a valuable addition to his skill. He has shot steadily and with intelligence, his progress being slow but sure. It seems to us that Mr. Willard's performance means reaching the highest round of the ladder in the class of rifle shooting he pursues.

That veteran rifleman, so highly esteemed by all of the fraternity, writes of Mr. Willard's score as follows: The expected and the unexpected have both happened. The expected was that some one at some time would make the full 120 on the Standard rest target. The unexpected was that Mr. H. L. Willard would be the first one to make it. Yet, on June 22, 1895, Mr. Willard did make the full 120 at Walnut Hill, This carries the lesson, never to give up efforts to do our best, although others may surpass us. Some facts may interest riflemen. First, Mr. Willard is a comparatively young rifleman, having been in practice only three or four years. Secondly, He did not have a telescope made by any of the renowned makers; but one made by himself, and not achromatic, either, course, when phenomenal scores are made, good fortune must be one of the elements of the success. Both Messrs. Rabbeth and Chase have made several 119's and both have seemed ready to step into the Canaan of the full 120. But it was reserved for one who had made several 117's to be the first successful man to cross over into that promised land. I am pleased and much gratified at his success; for it will encourage other young and enthusiastic riflemen to push ahead.

In a conversation with a wellknown rifleman on June 13 (this month), I expressed the conviction that the first one to make the full 120 would not be of the 119 class, and for this reason: The 119 class is a very limited one. It may not be very difficult for a good rifleman, under very favorable weather conditions, to make ten successive 12's; but the difficulty is in starting a new score with a 12, and have the succeeding nine shots all also 12's. A fairly good rifleman who has commenced his score with a 12, has a much better chance to make a full score than the best

living rifleman' has to start with a 12, and also carry all the remaining shots into the 12 ring. The 117 class is a much larger one than the 119 class; hence more to compete.

Mr. Chase made a run of thirteen successive 12's only a few weeks ago, and why should not he have been the one to make the first 120? Simply because he did not start his score with a 12. The same may be said of Mr. Rabbeth. Now that the 120 has been made; brother riflemen, "go and do likewise."

Winchester, Mass. Salem Wilder.

Winchester, Mass. Salem Wilder

.32 CALIBER CARTRIDGES FOR ALL MAKES OF ARMS.



MADE BY The Union Metallic Cartridge Co. BRIDGEPORT, CONN.
MAKERS OF HIGH GRADE PAPER SHOT SHELLS, WADS, PRIMERS, ETC., ETC.



Winchester Schuetzen Rifle
caliber 32-40

STEVENS

RIFLES

THESE ARMS are made by expert artists, bored, rifled, and chambered for the most accurate ammunition. They are made in a wide range of models, suitable for MEN, WOMEN, AND YOUTHS. SPECIAL MODELS FOR EACH. Used by Expert Range and Gallery Rifle Shoots.



THE Ideal Stevens Rifle

POSSESSES EXTREME ACCURACY.
IS PERFECTLY MODELED.
HAS UNSURPASSED STRENGTH. CAN BE TAKEN APART.
Several Barrels Fitted to One Action.
Made for Every Style of Shooting Known.

PISTOLS

These Arms UNEQUALLED RECORDS

Told in the wonderful 10, 50, and 100 shot matches during the past few years.

The various models are suited for every style of PISTOL SHOOTING.

LORD MODEL.

For any pistol cartridge, bore, .30 to .22 inches, weight, about 2 pounds.

CONLIN MODEL.

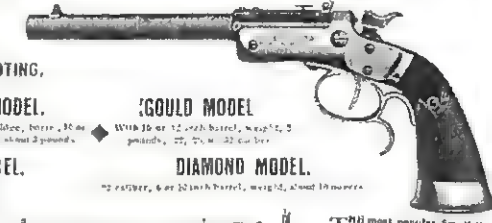
Bore as Lord model, carrying a 40 or 50 shot magazine.

GOULD MODEL.

With 10 or 12 inch barrel, weight, 2 pounds, .22, .25, .32 caliber.

DIAMOND MODEL.

42 caliber, 6 or 10 inch barrel, weight, about 10 ounces.



THE most popular Small Bore Cartridges were originated by this Company for Stevens Rifles and Pistols.

HUNTERS' PET MODEL.

Rifles of this model are made with barrels 12 to 24 inches in length, bore .25 to .32 caliber. The action is 5 to 50 pounds. A magazine is made to fit the rifle. The rifle is made in .25, .32, .38, .44, .45, .50, .56, .58, .60, .63, .66, .68, .70, .72, .74, .76, .78, .80, .82, .84, .86, .88, .90, .92, .94, .96, .98, 1.00, 1.02, 1.04, 1.06, 1.08, 1.10, 1.12, 1.14, 1.16, 1.18, 1.20, 1.22, 1.24, 1.26, 1.28, 1.30, 1.32, 1.34, 1.36, 1.38, 1.40, 1.42, 1.44, 1.46, 1.48, 1.50, 1.52, 1.54, 1.56, 1.58, 1.60, 1.62, 1.64, 1.66, 1.68, 1.70, 1.72, 1.74, 1.76, 1.78, 1.80, 1.82, 1.84, 1.86, 1.88, 1.90, 1.92, 1.94, 1.96, 1.98, 2.00, 2.02, 2.04, 2.06, 2.08, 2.10, 2.12, 2.14, 2.16, 2.18, 2.20, 2.22, 2.24, 2.26, 2.28, 2.30, 2.32, 2.34, 2.36, 2.38, 2.40, 2.42, 2.44, 2.46, 2.48, 2.50, 2.52, 2.54, 2.56, 2.58, 2.60, 2.62, 2.64, 2.66, 2.68, 2.70, 2.72, 2.74, 2.76, 2.78, 2.80, 2.82, 2.84, 2.86, 2.88, 2.90, 2.92, 2.94, 2.96, 2.98, 3.00, 3.02, 3.04, 3.06, 3.08, 3.10, 3.12, 3.14, 3.16, 3.18, 3.20, 3.22, 3.24, 3.26, 3.28, 3.30, 3.32, 3.34, 3.36, 3.38, 3.40, 3.42, 3.44, 3.46, 3.48, 3.50, 3.52, 3.54, 3.56, 3.58, 3.60, 3.62, 3.64, 3.66, 3.68, 3.70, 3.72, 3.74, 3.76, 3.78, 3.80, 3.82, 3.84, 3.86, 3.88, 3.90, 3.92, 3.94, 3.96, 3.98, 4.00, 4.02, 4.04, 4.06, 4.08, 4.10, 4.12, 4.14, 4.16, 4.18, 4.20, 4.22, 4.24, 4.26, 4.28, 4.30, 4.32, 4.34, 4.36, 4.38, 4.40, 4.42, 4.44, 4.46, 4.48, 4.50, 4.52, 4.54, 4.56, 4.58, 4.60, 4.62, 4.64, 4.66, 4.68, 4.70, 4.72, 4.74, 4.76, 4.78, 4.80, 4.82, 4.84, 4.86, 4.88, 4.90, 4.92, 4.94, 4.96, 4.98, 5.00, 5.02, 5.04, 5.06, 5.08, 5.10, 5.12, 5.14, 5.16, 5.18, 5.20, 5.22, 5.24, 5.26, 5.28, 5.30, 5.32, 5.34, 5.36, 5.38, 5.40, 5.42, 5.44, 5.46, 5.48, 5.50, 5.52, 5.54, 5.56, 5.58, 5.60, 5.62, 5.64, 5.66, 5.68, 5.70, 5.72, 5.74, 5.76, 5.78, 5.80, 5.82, 5.84, 5.86, 5.88, 5.90, 5.92, 5.94, 5.96, 5.98, 6.00, 6.02, 6.04, 6.06, 6.08, 6.10, 6.12, 6.14, 6.16, 6.18, 6.20, 6.22, 6.24, 6.26, 6.28, 6.30, 6.32, 6.34, 6.36, 6.38, 6.40, 6.42, 6.44, 6.46, 6.48, 6.50, 6.52, 6.54, 6.56, 6.58, 6.60, 6.62, 6.64, 6.66, 6.68, 6.70, 6.72, 6.74, 6.76, 6.78, 6.80, 6.82, 6.84, 6.86, 6.88, 6.90, 6.92, 6.94, 6.96, 6.98, 7.00, 7.02, 7.04, 7.06, 7.08, 7.10, 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Annie Oakley 1895

On the occasion of the Wild West show's recent visit to Worcester, Miss Annie Oakley gave an informal reception to a party of friends, nearly all of whom were members of the Worcester Sportsmen's Club, and their ladies. The reception was in Miss Oakley's private apartment in the dressing tent, and occurred immediately after the show.

After a half hour of delightful entertainment, in which our hostess related many events of interest connected with her career with the Wild West, and also of her past winter's experience on the stage in Europe, with the play "Miss Rora," Miss Oakley conducted the entire party on a tour of observation behind the scenes, visiting the many objects of interest. Before taking leave of the little lady, she kindly presented each lady of the party with a photograph of herself, as a souvenir of the occasion.

Among the party was our veteran sportsman, Uncle Nathan Harrington, and his daughter, Mr. Harris. Some five years ago, while the Wild West was abroad, Miss Oakley, who is a constant reader of *Shooting and Fishing*, noticed an article by your correspondent, giving an account of the party tendered Uncle Nathan on the occasion of his seventy-fifth birthday. The show was then at Milan, Italy, from there Miss Oakley sent Uncle Nathan one of her books and a photograph, and asked for an exchange. He was much pleased with the compliment, and sent the desired picture with an autograph letter by return mail. Ever since it has been the desire of the old gentleman's heart to meet the greatest lady shot of the world, and it was evident that the meeting on this occasion was of great pleasure to both. Miss Oakley took special pains to entertain her venerable friend and admirer, and with a hearty handshake at parting, expressed the earnest wish that she might, some time in the future, enjoy a fox hunt and a day's fishing in his company.

There were also among the party Mr. W. L. Davis, president of the Worcester Sportsmen's Club, and wife; Mr. Frank M. Harris and wife; Mr. W. R. Dean, wife and daughter; Mr. H. W. Eager, of Marlboro, Mass.; Mrs. Shaw, Mrs. Sears, and E. Sprague Knowles.

K. Worcester, Mass.



He Loads at the Breech.



A Muzzle Loading Breechloader.

Crank's Corner 1895



He tells how he made the big score at Walnut Hill

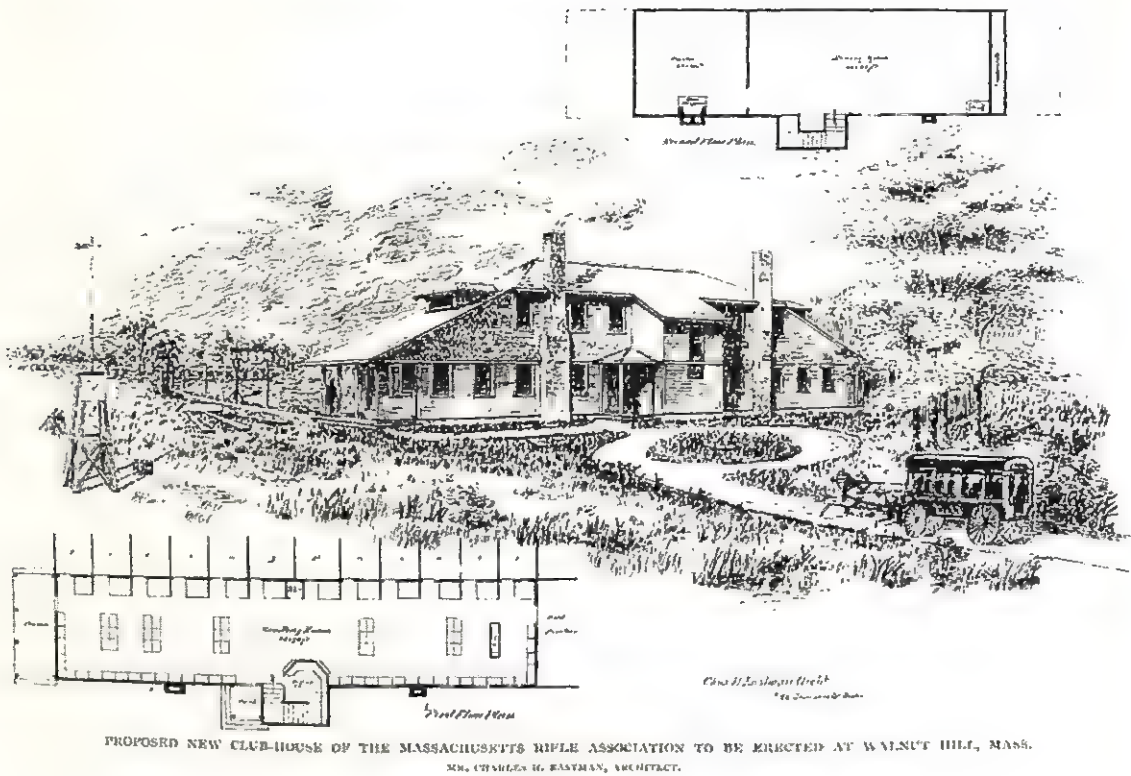


Shall I enter once more?



The long and the short of it.

The Massachusetts Rifle Association



PROPOSED NEW CLUB-HOUSE OF THE MASSACHUSETTS RIFLE ASSOCIATION TO BE ERRECTED AT WALNUT HILL, MASS.
MR. CHARLES H. EASTMAN, ARCHT.

There is probably no organization in the United States, devoted to shooting, which is better known than the Massachusetts Rifle Association. It has been in existence for 16 years, and from a modest beginning it has grown to its present condition, it has one of the most attractive ranges in this country, which is entirely paid for; has a large and active membership, including some of the best known shots in America; is in a healthy financial condition, and now following out one of the principles the organization has always been conducted upon, which is to indulge in nothing but what it could afford and readily pay for, it proposes to erect a new clubhouse, handsome and commodious enough to suit all, with every needed convenience and some luxuries which are warranted by the prosperity of the association and the liberality of many of its members.

At this time, when privileged to present to the readers of *Shooting and Fishing* an illustration of the proposed clubhouse, it seems proper to accompany it with a sketch of the organization.

Prior to rifle shooting in the vicinity of Boston was chiefly confined to very small local clubs in the suburban towns and irregular meeting of the shooters of heavy rifles with telescopic sights. In the autumn of 1875, several gentlemen commenced to urge the formation of a rifle association, and having held meeting for shooting at Spy Pond, Cambridge, and in Boston, for considering the subject, it was decided to issue a call for those interested in forming such a club to meet at the office of Mr. Charles Wheeler, 30 Court street, Boston, and on December 17, 1875, the Massahusetts Rifle Association was organized at the above place and the following gentlemen elected as officers:

President, Isaac H. Hazelton; vicepresident, Charles E. Sanborn; secretary, Charles A. Sawyer; treasurer, F. R. Shattuck, The following gentlemen were the charter members of the association and were elected its first directors: Isaac H. Hazelton, Win. H. Jackson, Chas. E. Sanborn, E. T. Osgood, Geo. H. Adams, E. M. Messenger, P. R. Shattuck. The records of the association show that on January of it, the following year, it had 30 members, for on that day it held its first annual meeting in the rooms of the Massachusetts Anglers' Association, Globe Building, Washington street, Boston, and there were 25 members present and five absent.

Shooting was continued at Spy Pond for sometime after organization, but it soon became apparent that the club must have a more extensive range, for mid and long-range shooting were becoming popular. A special committee, consisting of Messrs. Salem Wilder, James N. Frye and William Gerrish was appointed to find a suitable range, and its task was no easy one. Many localities were visited, but as it was desirable to find a tract of land over 1000 yards in length, level and lying north and south, it was some time before a suitable place was found. The country north of Winchester, in the town of Woburn, had long been known as region attractive to sportsmen, and many a good bag of game had been shot there. It was looked over by the committee and found suitable for a rifle range if cleared and could be secured. A large partion was controlled by the Boston and Lowell Railroad, and in September, 1876, a tract of land was leased of that company. The locality met the approval of members, for it had unusual natural beauties, pure air, natural springs and many advantages not to be found elsewhere. The ground was surveyed by Captain Wm. H. Jackson, and a committee, consisting of Messrs. Wilder, Rockwell and Osborn, appointed to arrange and equip the range. The first shoot occurred at Walnut Hill, Nov. 16, 1876.

As the Association prospered, it aspired to own its range, and special efforts were made to purchase it; but portions necessary to complete the range were owned by farmers, and it was found that considerable diplomacy must be exercised to secure the land. The railroad company was glad to sell, but some of the farmers, knowing the association favored the locality, placed ridiculously high value to their land; others thought the rifle range must bring a disreputable class of sporting men to the quiet little town. The latter were convinced of the respectability of the members of the association and the former induced to place reasonable figures on their land, and finally 44 acres were purchased in 1880 and paid for.

The shooting pavilion was a very modest affair about half the size of the present structure, but additions were built from time to time until recently it was found that the old structure was inadequate to accommodate anything like a full attendance of the club members.

The financial prosperity of the Massachusetts Rifle Association was not its only progress. The skill developed by its members has given the club prominence the world over. In looking over the old records of the association the writer was impressed with the fact that, at a time when the National Rifle Association was considering the question of a coarser target, the members of this club were urging the adoption of one with finer divisions. There is no doubt but what some of the riflemen about Boston desired a rifle association in order that they might adopt a fine target. Fifteen years ago the accounts of the shoots, before the association was formed, alluded to the dissatisfaction among riflemen with the Creedmoor target because a shot in the centre of the bullseye counted no more than one on the edge, and a shot within a half inch of the bullseye recorded the same value as one a foot away from it. To obviate this, in 1885, the Massachusetts ring target was introduced, and the reports were published by Creedmoor and Massachusetts count; later came the Massachusetts Decimal target, and finally the

Standard American target for offhand and rest shooting. In 1875, a score of 43 or 44 out of 50, by Creedmoor count, was generally top score with from thirty to forty competitors in an allday reentry match. Occasionally a 45 was made, and 46 elicited favorable mention in the press reports. Among the most active shooters in those days were W. H. Jackson, E. B. Souther, J. H. Frost, D. Kirkwood, Win. Gerrish, E. M. Messenger, J. N. Frye, S. Wilder, H. T. Rockwell, Carl Dittmar, J. Wemyss, Jr., C. C. Hebbard, A. H. Hebbard, E. T. Osgood, H. S. Harris, Lewis Saunders, C. B. Danforth, J. B. Osborn, Win. Poland, C. E. Sanborn, C. A. Sawyer, C. U. Meigs, I. H. Hazelton, F. R. Shattuck, J. L. Stevenson, J. A. Lowell. Some of these veterans are still devoted to rifle shooting, and are present at the weekly shoots of the Association at Walnut Hill.

At one of the early shoots at Walnut Hill, Jan. 18, 1877, there was a short range match at 200 yards, offhand, for a long range Creedmoor Sharps rifle. In a report of this match a writer says: "The match was shot with different kinds of rifles, including the Remington, Sharps, Ballard, Peabody-Martini and Maynard, the Peabody-Martini appearing to be the favorite. The top scores were as follows: Creedmoor target F. J. Rabbeth 44, W. H. Jackson 43, H. T. Rockwell 43, Win. Gerrish 43, E. B. Souther 42, J. H. Frost 42, H. Mortimer 42, W. M. Farrow 42, G. L. Winship 41, T. H. Gray 41. There were 56 entries in this match. From this time there was a steady improvement in marksmanship; scores of 45 and 46 became frequent. Mr. O. M. Jewell, the expert offhand shot, about this time commenced making high scores at short, mid and long range, using different barrels on his Maynard rifle for the several ranges. W. H. Jackson was generally among the top men at all ranges. David Kirkwood used to shoot a .45-calibre rifle with 100 grains of powder and a 550-grain bullet in offhand matches, looking with contempt on even a .40-60 rifle. In those days a person shooting a .32-caliber would have been considered equipped with a useless weapon. From 1877 to 1882, longrange rifle shooting with match rifles flourished at Walnut Hill, and the brilliant records will be remembered many years to come. The great records were the scores of Mr. William Gerrish and Major Charles W. Hinman, both recording 224 out of 225 points, or 44 bullseyes and a centre out of 45 shots, 15 shots at 800, 900 and 1000 yards; both scores shot in regular matches.

The limited space does not permit a full account of the fine scores made at long and mid ranges by such riflemen as Capt. W. H. Jackson, J. H. Brown, Col. H. T. Rockwell, Nathan Washburn, F. J. Rabbeth, Salem Wilder, and Lewis Saunders, and we pass to the short range, where most of the shooting was done, and where the growth was steady and improvement continuous.

July 20, 1878. Mr. O. M. Jewell made a score of 47 out of 50 at 200 yards, off-hand, Creedmoor target, the best score which had been made to that date, but one week later Mr. L. L. Hubbard broke the offhand record by a score of 48. On July 30, Mr. N. W. Arnold made the first ten consecutive bullseyes known at 200 yards, off-hand, but this score was in practice, and not in a regular match. On September 28, Mr. John A. Lowell scored 48, which was among the best performances on record at that time, in a regular match. David Kirkwood scored 47 soon after this, and a long press notice mentioned his wonderful skill. On Oct. 26, 1878, Mr. E. B. Souther equalled Mr. Lowell's score. After, Mr. H. S. Harris performed the same feat, and on Feb. 22, 79, Mr. J. A. Lowell again made 48 in a match which outranked his former score. After this an aggregate of 48 was occasionally made. On April 19, 79, Mr. W. M. Farrow came to Walnut Hill, and he and Mr. O. M. Jewell scored 71 out of 75 in a 15-shot off-hand match, at 200 yards, on Creedmoor target. This was considered the finest shooting ever done at Walnut Hill to date. On August 30, 1878, the first seven-shot clean score was recorded by Mr. O. M. Jewell, and September 27, Major C. W. Hinman repeated the performance. After this, seven-shot clean scores became more frequent,

and the ambition of riflemen was to secure a 10-shot clean score of bulls-eyes. On October 22, 1879, the Massachusetts Rifle Association received a visit of New York riflemen, and among them was Mr. W. M. Farrow, who was at that time in fine shooting form, and on that day made the first ten-shot clean score of bull's-eyes made at Walnut Hill in a match. On February 28, 1880, Mr. J. S. Sumner made the second clean score; then followed perfect scores by W. M. Jackson, L. L. Hubbard, O. M. Jewell, E. F. Richardson, C. W. Hinman, E. J. Cram, N. C. Nash, G. F. Ellsworth, C. M. Hill, J. B. Fellows, G. R. Russell, F. J. Rabbeth, H. S. Harris, and others. All these performances gave the Massachusetts Rifle Association and its members a worldwide reputation. About 1880 Mr. H. G. Bixby became a member of the association, and sprung rapidly into the front ranks of famous marksmen. His brilliant work will never be forgotten by riflemen. He made many 10-shot clean scores and a phenomenal run of 28 consecutive bullseyes. From this time on clean scores elicited no special comment, and they were secured so frequently that a record of them was discontinued.

After the decline of long range shooting, rest shooting was introduced, and, later, pistol and revolver shooting, and these departments of rifle shooting, as well as glass ball, and, later, the more modern style of trap shooting made provisions for nearly all styles of shooting. Some of the best scores the writer has a record of, made at Walnut Hill, and not already mentioned, are the following

Major C. W. Hinman, with a special military rifle, scored on Standard American target, at 200 yards, offhand, April 23, 1887, 89 points.

Lieut. G. R. Russell scored under the same conditions the same aggregate, but with the U. S. Springfield rifle. This gentleman also made many brilliant scores with a match rifle.

Mr. F. J. Rabbeth, with a military rifle at rest, same distance, on June 24, 1886, scored 99 out of 100 points, on Standard offhand target.

Mr. N. Washburn, shooting at 200 yards rest on Standard American target on June 4, 1887, scored 116 out of 120 points.

Mr. F. J. Rabbeth scored 116 points Aug. 27, 1887.

Mr. Win. V. Lowe, on the same target, but with a telescopic sighted rifle, on June 11, 1887, scored 117 points.

Mr. N. Washburn, with a telescopic sighted rifle, on Aug. 29, 1888, scored 119 points out of 120 on the Standard rest target in ten shots.

Major C. W. Hinman, with a U. S. Springfield rifle, in a ten-shot offhand match at 200 yards, Creedmoor target, scored, in April, 1880, 49 out of 50 and Lieut. W. G. Hussey made the same record in 1890, with a similar rifle.

Lincoln Grant, in August 28, 1886, scored 18 consecutive bullseyes with a U. S. Springfield rifle, at 500 yards, and September 6, of the same year, 15 consecutive bull's-eyes at 600 yards, Creedmoor target.

In pistol and revolver shooting there are so many records it is not possible to give them in the limited space at command. The fine scores of the famous Bennett Brothers, Ira Paine, W. C. Johnston, Jr., Henry S. Harris, Major C. W. Hinman, J. B. Fellows, W. G. Hussey, and others, are well known.

Mr. H. S. Harris is credited with the highest ten-shot score, which is 99 out of a possible 100 in ten shots at 50 yards on Standard American target, and made Dec. 31, 1890.

Mr. F. J. Rabbeth scored 118 out of 120 points in ten shots at 200 yards, rest, on Standard American rest target, June 30, 1888, and on Nov. 1, 1885, W. P. Thompson secured the same

aggregate under similar conditions. These scores were shot with regulation rifles, and are the best on record with such rifles. On April 5, 1889. Mr. C. M. Hill scored 95 out of 100 in a regular off-hand match at 200 yards, Standard American target. This record has never been surpassed.

Mr. E. T. Richardson on October 6, 1887, scored 67 out of 70 points in a seven-shot match, offhand, 200 yards, Standard American target. In seven-shot rest matches at 200 yards, Standard American rest target.

Mr. Salem Wilder scored 82, out of 84 points, October 6, 1887, and the following day Mr. J. R. Monroe secured the same aggregate.

Whenever international rifle contests were proposed, the Massachusetts Rifle Association furnished material for the American teams. Among the members of the association who have shot on American teams in Europe are the following: Capt. W. H. Jackson, J. H. Brown, William Gerrish, Col. Horace T. Rockwell, Major C. W. Hinman, Maj. J. P. Frost, F. J. Rabbeth, Lieut. W. G. Hussey, Sergt. W. M. Merrill, Sergt. W. C. Johnston, Jr.

It is interesting to note how largely has the State of Massachusetts drawn on the association for instructors in rifle practice for its volunteers. Col. H. T. Rockwell rose from the ranks to inspector-General of Rifle Practice; Major C. W. Hinman and Major J. P. Frost to inspectors of Rifle Practice of the First and Second Brigades, M.V.M.; Lieut. G. F. Hall, I.R.P. First Infantry; Lieut. W.G. Hussey, I.R.P. Eighth Infantry. Some of the newspaper accounts of the early shooting at Walnut Hill, which have been preserved in scrap books, show the excellent writings of genial George Dupes, now deceased, and Frank Brownell, who has since risen high in the ranks of journalism.

For some time past it has become evident that the old shooting pavilion at Walnut Hill was not sufficiently large to accommodate the increasing number of members; the old house had done excellent service, but was not waterproof, and did not afford the comfort and accommodations which the members felt they could afford. From the organization of the association the financial matters have been managed with as much care and judgment as the best conducted mercantile business. Men who have achieved prominence by their success in business, gave their best counsel in the management of the affairs of this organization, and, as a result, the club in time owned its range of 44 acres; later it provided increased and better accommodations, and next lowered the cost of shooting. The broad, liberal, but conservative policy of the association has always been to provide the best accommodation for the least money, but at the same time never to indulge in anything it could not pay for, and reserve something for a contingent fund. Thus the association has, from year to year, increased its reserve fund, and a few months ago it was thought by most of the members that the time had come when the club could afford a larger and better clubhouse. A special meeting of the association was called, and, by a unanimous vote, it was decided to erect a new structure, drawing on the reserve fund of the association to a certain amount, provided the balance necessary be secured by acquiring new members and voluntary contributions. The specified sum has been guaranteed and plans gratuitously supplied through the generosity of Mr. Charles H. Eastman, a skilful architect and so active member of the association. Preparations for building have already commenced, and before long in place of the old structure will be the elegant and commodious one shown in the accompanying illustration. The building will be two stories in height. The first floor is to be used for the shooters, and will be 90 feet long by 20 feet wide, with ample shelf accommodation along three sides of the room, and one entire side toward the targets. Down the centre of the first floor will be arrangements for portable stands and shelves for shooters when there is an unusually large attendance. At the west end of the building will be a piazza where fatigued shooters or

visitors may sit and enjoy an attractive view. At the east end of the building will be the firing points for pistol shooting. A commodious office is also planned for the first floor. The second story will contain a diningroom 20x40 feet and a parlor 20x20 feet, with a large open fireplace. Already members and friends have offered pictures and other ornaments for this room. The first story walls will be clapboarded and above shingled, and painted red the whole building substantially built for use and comfort.

There are few organizations of this nature in America in such a sound financial condition, and with such a large and active list of members. It is not exclusive, for any person conducting himself properly and abiding by the club's rules, may shoot at the range, and visitors are always welcomed. Any one may apply for membership and no one of respectability is likely to be denied admission. Among the members are gentlemen of all ages from those of tender years to veterans with silver locks. Many professions and trades are represented, and one of the most pleasing features, which will be noticed by the visitor, is the entire absence of everything that degrades sports; liquor drinking, profanity, gambling, are forbidden, and a class of American sportsmen assemble at Walnut Hill to indulge in friendly competitions or practice with the rifle, pistol, revolver and gun.

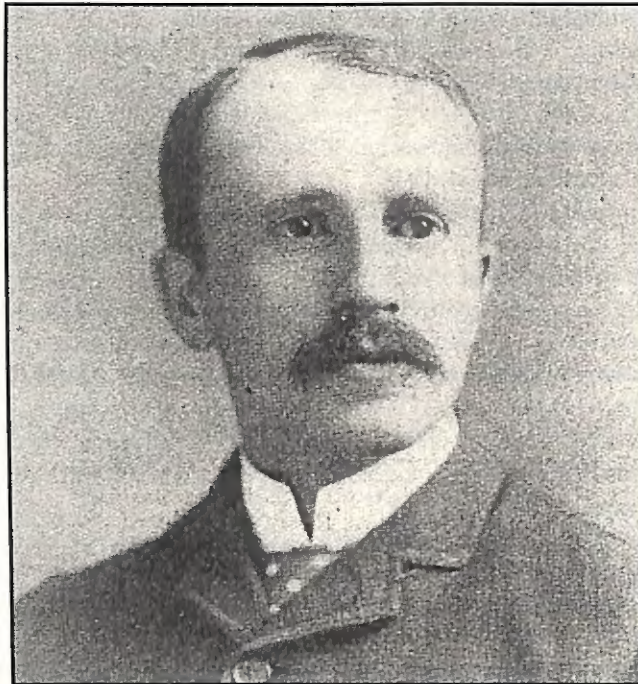
The following gentlemen have served as officers of the Massachusetts Rifle Association Walnut Hill since its organization on November 4, 1875 at 4:00 P.M.

Editors Note: *"No doubt the twenty enthusiasts who gathered that afternoon never expected to be the founders of a club that would endure for over 130 years - a mainstay that has become the most famous shooting club in America. In many ways, the founders of the M.R.A. embodied much of what we value today in the members of the M.R.A. They thrive in the face of adversity - in spite of the current political strife and the challenges of the encroaching urban sprawl - and find the greatest reward not in profit, but in the satisfaction of a job well-done.*

If you think these notions sound old-fashioned, we invite you to become reacquainted with some of these values and taste the adventures of Walnut Hill. You will find an atmosphere of friendship and fun that engulfs the M.R.A. Participating in various shooting activities within the magic boundaries of the M.R.A.'s Walnut Hill will be a refreshing change from the hectic world. I thank you for being part of Walnut Hill history. You can feel the excitement in the air and the spirit of Walnut Hill today."

Date	President	Secretary	Treasurer	Range Keeper
1875	I.H. Hazleton	C.A. Sawyer	F.R. Shattuck	
1876	Gen. H.B. Sargent	Robert Williams	"	
1877	C.A. Longfellow	"	"	Geo. Fowle
1878	"	H.T. Rockwell	Salem Wilder	"
1879	J.N. Frye	"	A.H. Hardy	"
1880	"	"	"	"
1881	L.L. Hubbard	"	A.C. Gould	"
1882	"	"	J.B. Fellows	"
1883	H.T. Rockwell	"	"	"
1884	"	J.E. Leach	G.G. Russell	Wm. T. Kendall
1885	"	"	"	"
1886	"	"	"	"
1887	"	H.S. Harris	"	"
1888	"	"	"	"
1889	L.L. Hubbard	"	"	"
1890	"	"	W.C. Prescott	"
1891	N.C. Nash	"	"	"

Mr. Eugene E. Patridge 1892



A New Pistol Expert

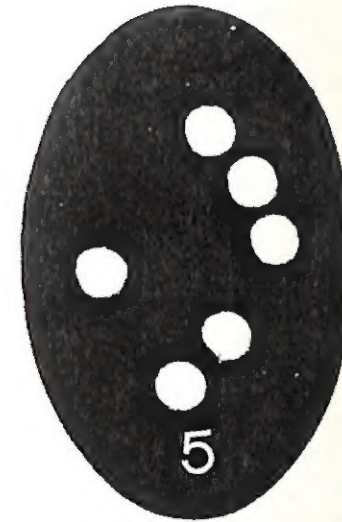
Another new pistol expert has sprung into prominence. Mr. Eugene E. Patridge, a prominent business man of Boston, and an enthusiastic sportsman, has, in a short time, risen to a place among the front ranks of amateur pistol shots. In a recent tournament at the Boston Athletic Club, Mr. Patridge took the bronze, the silver and the gold medals on the following scores

Bronze.....87 88 86 88 87 88 87 87 91 91
 Silver91 91 90 91 91 90 90 90 92 90
 Gold93 93 93 93 94 94 94 93 93 96

This shooting was on the Standard American target, 4-inch bullseye at 25 yards. In a 100-shot score made at the above club, Mr. Patridge scored 891 points, which, it is understood, is the best 100-shot score on record at this club. These shots were made up as follows

38- 10=380
 28- 9=252
 22- 8=176
 11- 7=77
 1- 6=6
 100 891

At Walnut Hill, Mr. Patridge has shown the same order of skill and shoots with wonderful steadiness and skill. He shoots solely for the pleasure derived from the sport, which he considers an excellent training, and has no ambition to figure with professionals.



Six shots in one minute, by E.E. Patridge, in the Military Revolver Match Colt's .38 caliber Army revolver and U.M.C. full charge cartridges. Distance 20 yards
 Target Below Fifty consecutive shots in 25 minutes by E.E. Patridge at 20 yards
 Colt's .38 caliber U.M.C. full charge cartridges



Some Recent Pistol Scores

December 25, 1891. Some excellent pistol scores were recorded on Christmas day, which illustrates the wonderful proficiency many American gentlemen are acquiring in the use of this popular arm. At Walnut Hill several gentlemen have sprang suddenly into prominence by their skill in pistol shooting.

Prominent among these are Mr. E. E. Patridge and Mr. Sumner Paine. Both of these gentlemen secured aggregates of 95 on Christmas day in the regular match at 50 yards. They both shot Stevens pistols with ten-inch barrels, and used the U.M.C. .22 long-rifle cartridges.

At Wilmington, Del., where such an interest is shown in pistol shooting, there were excellent scores made, and, as a matter of course, as Mr. Darlington also secured a score of 95 with a Stevens pistol, and an aggregate of 90 with a revolver. The diagrams presented represent the targets reduced from the 8-inch bullseye to the size shown.



Score of 95, by Mr. E.E. Patridge, shot at Walnut Hill, Mass. with a Stevens pistol, at 50 yards, on December 25, 1891



Score of 95, by Mr. Sumner Paine, shot at Walnut Hill, Mass. with a Stevens pistol, at 50 yards, on December 25, 1891



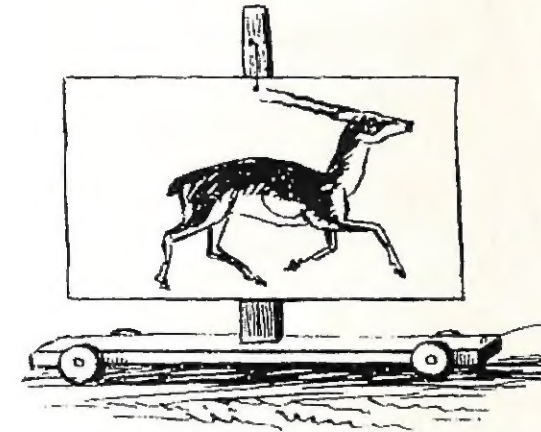
Score of 95, by Mr. E.J. Darlington, shot at Wilmington, Del., December 25, with a Stevens pistol. Distance 50 yards.



Score of 98 by E.E. Patridge, shot on the range of the Boston Athletic Association with a Stevens pistol, on a 4-inch bull's-eye at 25 yards

Moving Targets at Walnut Hill 1897

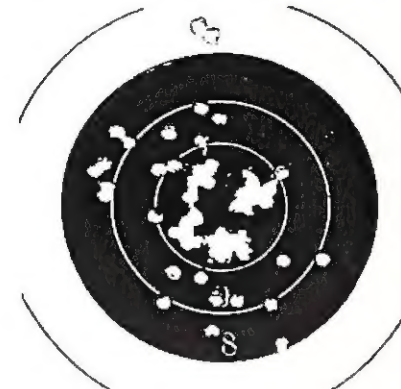
February 19, 1897. I was much pleased to note in the last number of *Shooting and Fishing*, that at last we are to have a moving target at the Walnut Hill range, and that at last the one who uses a hunting rifle for practical purposes may have something approaching practical work in the field to practice upon. Whether or not this will serve as a substitute for practical work may bear some questioning, but it will serve as a novelty to break the monotony, and I hope it will come about. But I notice in the "Rifle" of September, 1887, an "effort" was made to have something of the kind. Let us trust that the moving target will materialize and be enjoyed by many others as well as M. R. A. Boston, Mass., February 19, 1897.



A Moving Target
at
M.R.A. February 19, 1897

Mr. George R. Russell

February 15, 1897. Mr. George R. Russell, in charge of the rifle gallery of the Boston Athletic Club, at Boston, recently tested a new barrel to a Stevens pistol, firing 50 shots, at 25 yards, at a 4-inch bullseye. His five 10-shot scores aggregated, out of 100 points, 95, 95, 88, 96, 97-A total of 471 points. The shots were all on one target, which is shown reduced in size on accompanying illustration.

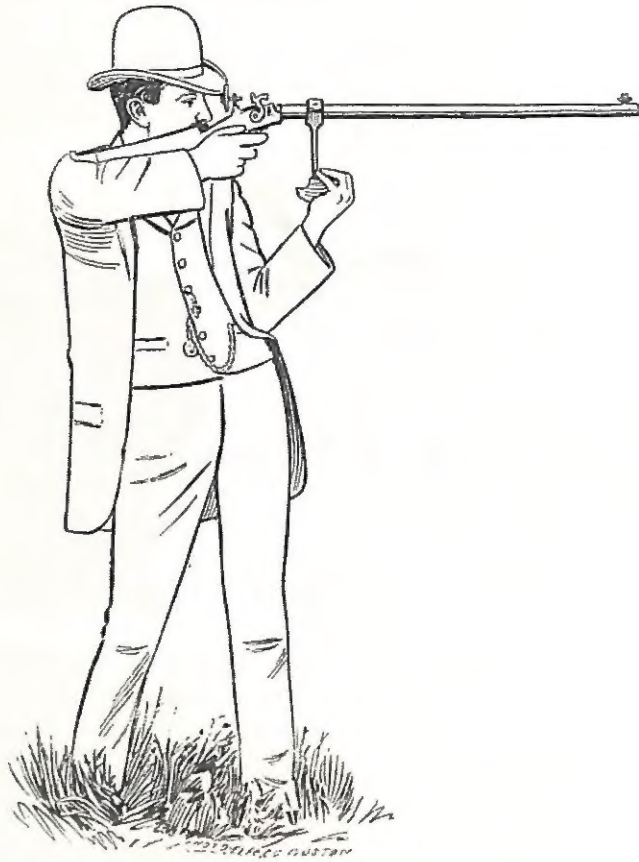


Fifty consecutive shots, at 25 yards,
by Mr. G.R. Russell, shot with a
Stevens pistol Target reduced from a
four-inch bull's-eye



Mr. George R. Russell

Mr. William Hayes.

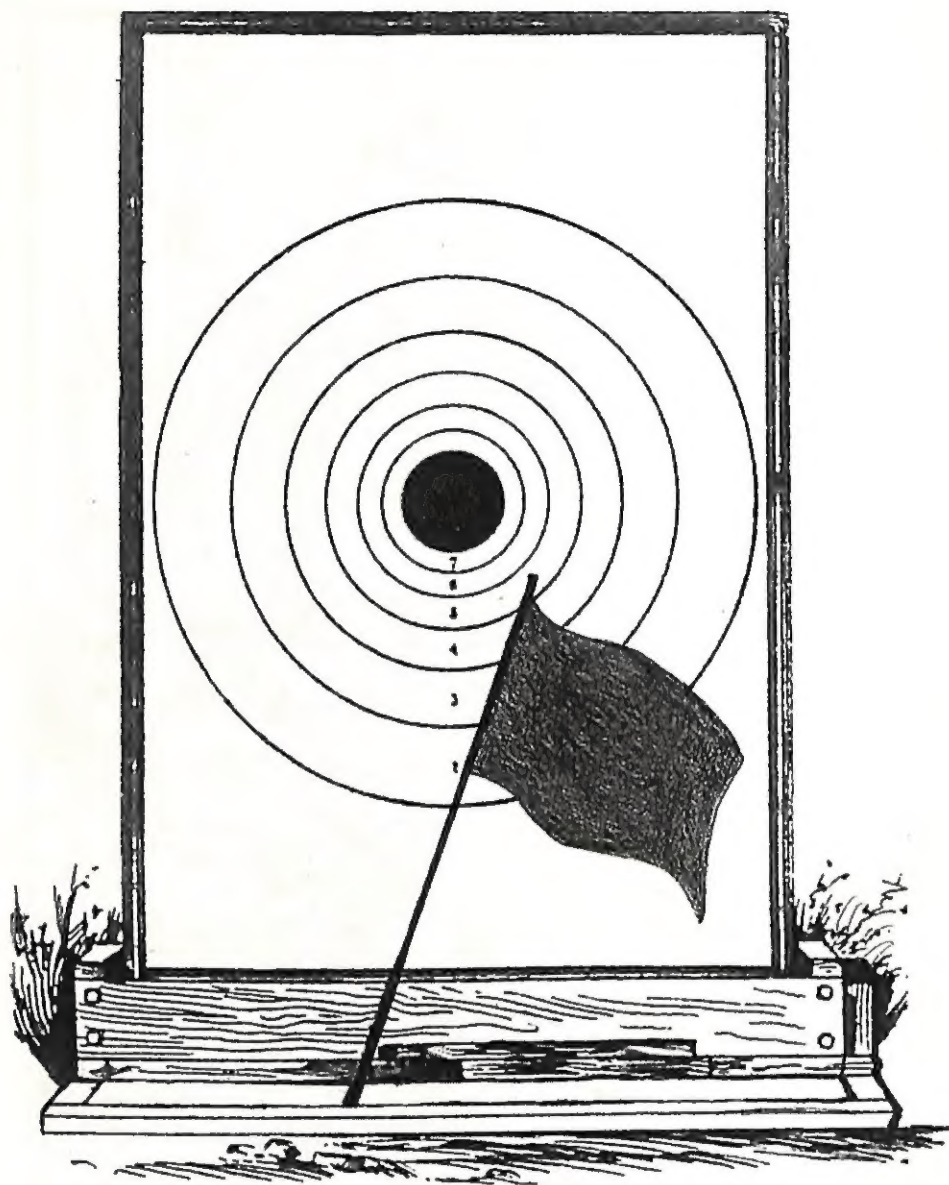


POSITION ADOPTED BY MR. WILLIAM HAYES.

Mrs. J.E. Crewe Fly Fishing in Maine



Mrs. J.E. Crewe Enjoying a great day of fly fishing in Maine she and her husband are long time members of Walnut Hill July 6, 1896.



The last Flag of the day at
Walnut Hill